The Book of Esther

*Click on an "**E**" or an "**H**" sound icon to hear the verse in English or Hebrew*

…n English version by Len Fellman to be sung to the trope melodies
…ding special melodies for some "exceptional" verses inspired by midrash,
… Joshua R. Jacobson's CHANTING THE HEBREW BIBLE (1st ed. 2002)
Current version: February 23, 2026

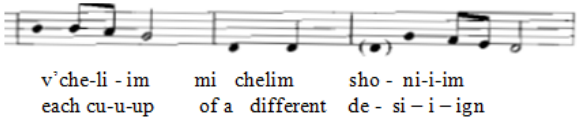
אסתר

1 וַיְהִי בִּימֵי אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ הוּא אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ
הַמֹּלֵךְ מֵהֹדּוּ וְעַד־כּוּשׁ שֶׁבַע וְעֶשְׂרִים
וּמֵאָה מְדִינָה: 2 בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם כְּשֶׁבֶת ׀
הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ עַל כִּסֵּא מַלְכוּתוֹ אֲשֶׁר
בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה: 3 בִּשְׁנַת שָׁלוֹשׁ לְמָלְכוֹ
עָשָׂה מִשְׁתֶּה לְכָל־שָׂרָיו וַעֲבָדָיו חֵיל ׀
פָּרַס וּמָדַי הַפַּרְתְּמִים וְשָׂרֵי הַמְּדִינוֹת
לְפָנָיו: 4 בְּהַרְאוֹתוֹ אֶת־עֹשֶׁר כְּבוֹד
מַלְכוּתוֹ וְאֶת־יְקַר תִּפְאֶרֶת גְּדוּלָּתוֹ יָמִים
רַבִּים שְׁמוֹנִים וּמְאַת יוֹם: 5 וּבִמְלוֹאת ׀
הַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה עָשָׂה הַמֶּלֶךְ לְכָל־הָעָם
הַנִּמְצְאִים בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה לְמִגָּדוֹל וְעַד־
קָטָן מִשְׁתֶּה שִׁבְעַת יָמִים בַּחֲצַר גִּנַּת בִּיתַן
הַמֶּלֶךְ: 6 חוּר ׀ כַּרְפַּס וּתְכֵלֶת אָחוּז
בְּחַבְלֵי־בוּץ וְאַרְגָּמָן עַל־גְּלִילֵי כֶסֶף
וְעַמּוּדֵי שֵׁשׁ מִטּוֹת ׀ זָהָב וָכֶסֶף עַל רִצְפַת
בַּהַט־וָשֶׁשׁ וְדַר וְסֹחָרֶת: 7 וְהַשְׁקוֹת בִּכְלֵי
זָהָב וְכֵלִים מִכֵּלִים שׁוֹנִים וְיֵין מַלְכוּת
רָב כְּיַד הַמֶּלֶךְ:

1:1 [Now it came to pass] in the days of Ahasuerus––this is the Ahasuerus who reigned
from India to Ethiopia––[which included] a hundred twenty-seven provinces:
2 It happened, in those days, [when there sat] | the king Ahasuerus on the royal throne
which was in Shushan the capital,
3 in the third year of his reign he gave a feast [for his officials] and servants, [ch… the army] |
of Persia and Media, [all of the noblemen], princes of the provinces––[they stoo… before him];
4 [where he displayed] the riches of his glorious kingdom,
[and all the pomp] and splendor of his majesty, for many days, a hundred eight… in all.
5 [When it was all over] | ––the days of that occasion––then made [the king anot… feast]
[for all of the people] [who were living] in Shushan the fortified city,
[from the greatest] [to the lowest habitant], [he made a banquet]––for seven da…
[right in the courtyard] of the garden of the palace of the king.
6 [There were curtains] of white and violet, attached with cords [of fine linen] a… purple wool

to rods of silver and columns of marble; [and there were couches]|of gold and silver
[resting upon] an alabaster pavement , set with pearl and precious stones.
7 For drinking there were golden cups, <u>each cup of a different design</u>.
And wine, [and it was royal wine], was in abundance, as befits a king.

1:7 Lamentations melody (for the cups plundered from the temple)



1:8 The drinking, by royal command , was unrestricted,
[for in this manner] |were instructed[by the king] all the stewards of his house
[that they observe] the wishes of each man.

9 [In addition], Vashti the queen, hosted a banquet for the women,
in[the royal palace], the house of King Ahasuerus.

10 On the seventh day, when the king was merry with wine,[he commanded his servants]
Mehuman, Bizzetha and Harbona, Bigtha and Abagtha, Zethar and Carcas,
the seven royal eunuchs who served in the presence of King Ahasuerus

11 [that they should bring]Vashti[she who was the queen] before the king , wearir
her royal crown,
to display her beauty to the people and the officials, for she was lovely to behold.

12 But she refused––Queen Vashti––to come at the command of the king, that was
delivered
by the eunuchs, and the king was enraged greatly, and his anger burned inside hi

13 Then spoke the king[to the wise men]who understood the times––
for thus was the manner of the king[towards those]who are versed in law and
justice––

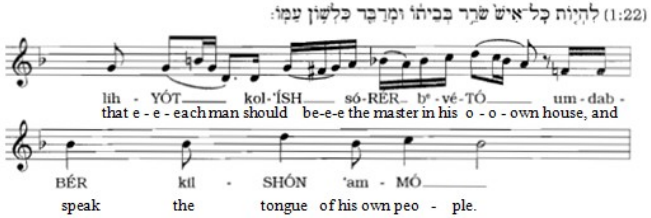
14 [Those who were closest] [to him]: Carshena and Shethar, Admatha and
Tarshish,
Meres, Marsena , and Memucan,[these seven men],[who were the princes] |of Per
and Media,
had access to the royal presence, having the leading positions in the kingdom.

8 וְהַשְׁתִּיָה כַדָּת אֵין אֹנֵס
כִּי־כֵן | יִסַּד הַמֶּלֶךְ עַל כָּל־רַב בֵּיתוֹ
לַעֲשׂוֹת כִּרְצוֹן אִישׁ־וָאִישׁ: 9 גַּם וַשְׁתִּי
הַמַּלְכָּה עָשְׂתָה מִשְׁתֵּה נָשִׁים בֵּית
הַמַּלְכוּת אֲשֶׁר לַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ: ס
10 בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי כְּטוֹב לֵב־הַמֶּלֶךְ בַּיָּיִן
אָמַר לִמְהוּמָן בִּזְתָא חַרְבוֹנָא בִּגְתָא
וַאֲבַגְתָא זֵתַר וְכַרְכַּס שִׁבְעַת הַסָּרִיסִים
הַמְשָׁרְתִים אֶת־פְּנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ:
11 לְהָבִיא אֶת־וַשְׁתִּי הַמַּלְכָּה לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ
בְּכֶתֶר מַלְכוּת לְהַרְאוֹת הָעַמִּים וְהַשָּׂרִים
אֶת־יָפְיָהּ כִּי־טוֹבַת מַרְאֶה הִיא:
12 וַתְּמָאֵן הַמַּלְכָּה וַשְׁתִּי לָבוֹא בִּדְבַר
הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר בְּיַד הַסָּרִיסִים וַיִּקְצֹף הַמֶּלֶךְ
מְאֹד וַחֲמָתוֹ בָּעֲרָה בוֹ: 13 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ
לַחֲכָמִים יֹדְעֵי הָעִתִּים כִּי־כֵן דִּבֶּר הַמֶּלֶךְ
לִפְנֵי כָּל־יוֹדְעֵי דָּת וָדִין: 14 וְהַקָּרֹב אֵלָיו
כַּרְשְׁנָא שֵׁתָר אַדְמָתָא תַּרְשִׁישׁ מֶרֶס
מַרְסְנָא מְמוּכָן שִׁבְעַת שָׂרֵי | פָּרַס וּמָדַי
רֹאֵי פְּנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ הַיֹּשְׁבִים רִאשֹׁנָה
בַּמַּלְכוּת: 15 כְּדָת מַה־לַּעֲשׂוֹת בַּמַּלְכָּה
וַשְׁתִּי עַל | אֲשֶׁר לֹא־עָשְׂתָה אֶת־מַאֲמַר
הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ בְּיַד הַסָּרִיסִים: ס
16 וַיֹּאמֶר מומכן מְמוּכָן לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ
וְהַשָּׂרִים לֹא עַל־הַמֶּלֶךְ לְבַדּוֹ עָוְתָה וַשְׁתִּי
הַמַּלְכָּה כִּי עַל־כָּל־הַשָּׂרִים וְעַל־כָּל־
הָעַמִּים אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל־מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ:

15 By the law,[what should be done]to the queen, Vashti,[forasmuch as]|she[did not obey]
the command[of the king––me], Ahasuerus––that was delivered by the eunuchs?
16 Then said Memucan before the king and the princes:
“Not[against the king]alone has Vashti done wrong,
[but against] [all the princes] and against[all the people]––
[all who reside]in all the lands of King Ahasuerus.

1:17 For[the word of the queen] [will go out to all the women] making their husbands contemptible
in their eyes, [when they will say]: 'King Ahasuerus[issued the command]
to bring Vashti[she who was the queen] [before him],[and she would not come].'
18 This very day [they will talk] --the ladies[of Persia and Media]
who have heard of the words of the queen--to all the officials of the king, giving rise to contempt and rage.
19 If it please the king, let an edict go out from him, [and let it be recorded]
into the laws of Persia and Media so that it cannot be changed, that never again may Vashti
appear before King Ahashuerus, and let the king confer her royal estate on one more worthy than she.
20[Then will be heard]the decree of the king which he will make[throughout his kingdom]
--as vast as it is:[then all of the women]will show respect to their husbands, from the greatest to the least.
21 This plan was pleasing in the eyes of the king and his ministers,
and the king did according to the word of Memucan.
22 He sent letters to all the provinces of the king,
to each country in its own script,
and to each nation in its own language,

17 כִּי־יֵצֵא דְבַר־הַמַּלְכָּה עַל־
כָּל־הַנָּשִׁים לְהַבְזוֹת בַּעְלֵיהֶן בְּעֵינֵיהֶן
בְּאָמְרָם הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ אָמַר לְהָבִיא
אֶת־וַשְׁתִּי הַמַּלְכָּה לְפָנָיו וְלֹא־בָאָה׃
18 וְהַיּוֹם הַזֶּה תֹּאמַרְנָה | שָׂרוֹת פָּרַס־וּמָדַי
אֲשֶׁר שָׁמְעוּ אֶת־דְּבַר הַמַּלְכָּה לְכָל שָׂרֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ וּכְדֵי בִּזָּיוֹן וָקָצֶף׃ 19 אִם־עַל־הַמֶּלֶךְ
טוֹב יֵצֵא דְבַר־מַלְכוּת מִלְפָנָיו וְיִכָּתֵב
בְּדָתֵי פָרַס־וּמָדַי וְלֹא יַעֲבוֹר אֲשֶׁר לֹא־
תָבוֹא וַשְׁתִּי לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ
וּמַלְכוּתָהּ יִתֵּן הַמֶּלֶךְ לְרֵעוּתָהּ הַטּוֹבָה
מִמֶּנָּה׃ 20 וְנִשְׁמַע פִּתְגָם הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר־
יַעֲשֶׂה בְּכָל־מַלְכוּתוֹ כִּי רַבָּה הִיא וְכָל־
הַנָּשִׁים יִתְּנוּ יְקָר לְבַעְלֵיהֶן לְמִגְדּוֹל וְעַד־
קָטֶן׃ 21 וַיִּיטַב הַדָּבָר בְּעֵינֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ
וְהַשָּׂרִים וַיַּעַשׂ הַמֶּלֶךְ כִּדְבַר מְמוּכָן׃
22 וַיִּשְׁלַח סְפָרִים אֶל־כָּל־מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֶל־מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה כִּכְתָבָהּ וְאֶל־עַם וָעָם
כִּלְשׁוֹנוֹ לִהְיוֹת כָּל־אִישׁ שֹׂרֵר בְּבֵיתוֹ
וּמְדַבֵּר כִּלְשׁוֹן עַמּוֹ׃ פ

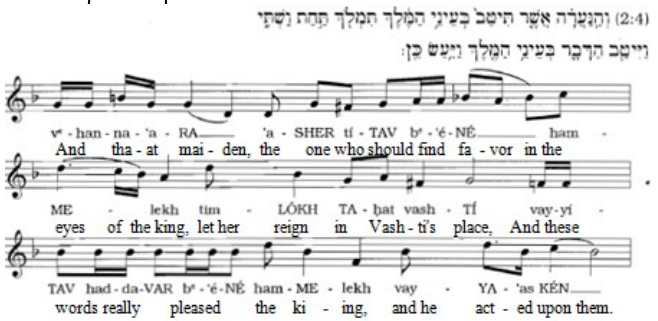
2 אַחַר הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה כְּשֹׁךְ חֲמַת הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ זָכַר אֶת־וַשְׁתִּי וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר־
עָשְׂתָה וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר־נִגְזַר עָלֶיהָ׃ 2 וַיֹּאמְרוּ
נַעֲרֵי־הַמֶּלֶךְ מְשָׁרְתָיו יְבַקְשׁוּ לַמֶּלֶךְ
נְעָרוֹת בְּתוּלוֹת טוֹבוֹת מַרְאֶה׃

(1:22) לִהְיוֹת כָּל־אִישׁ שֹׂרֵר בְּבֵיתוֹ וּמְדַבֵּר כִּלְשׁוֹן עַמּוֹ׃
lih - YÓT kol-ÍSH só-RER b'-vé-TÓ um-dab-
that e-e-each man should be-e-e the master in his o-o-own house, and
BÉR kil - SHÓN 'am - MÓ
speak the tongue of his own peo - ple.

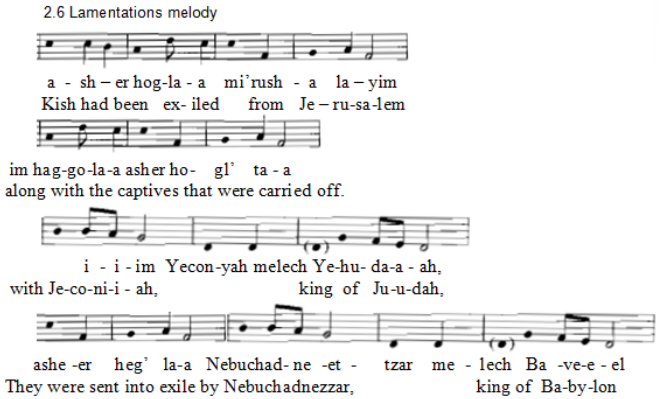
that each man should be the master in his own house,
and speak the tongue of his own people.

2:1 [Some time] after this, it subsided--the anger of King Ahasuerus,
and he thought of Vashti and what she had done, and what had been decreed
against her.

2 Then said the king's servants , who attended him,
"[Let us find]--[let us seek out for the king] some young maidens pleasing to look
at.

2:3 And let the king appoint[a team of officials]in each province of your kingdom;
to assemble[all the fair young maidens]that are beautiful to look at, in Shushan the citadel,
at the house of the women, the house[that is in the charge of Hegai], the king's eunuch ,
guardian of the women.[And let them be given]cosmetics.

4 And that maiden--the one who looks good
in the eyes of the king--let her reign
in Vashti's place. And these words
[really pleased]the king, and he acted
upon them. 5* There was a Jew who lived
in Shushan the capital, and his name was Mordecai, son of Jair,[son of Shimei], son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin, *Chanted by congregation before the reader
6 Kish had been exiled from Jerusalem
[along with the captives] [which were carried off]
[together with]Jeconiah, King of Judah,
They were sent into exile by
Nebuchadnezzar,
King of Babylon.

(2:4) וְהַנַּעֲרָה אֲשֶׁר תִּיטַב בְּעֵינֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ תִּמְלֹךְ תַּחַת וַשְׁתִּי
וַיִּיטַב הַדָּבָר בְּעֵינֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיַּעַשׂ כֵּן׃
v' - han - na - 'a - RA 'a - SHER tí - TAV b' - 'é - NÉ ham -
And tha - at mai - den, the one who should find fa - vor in the
ME - lekh tim - LÓKH TA - ḥat vash - tí vay - yi -
eyes of the king, let her reign in Vash - ti's place, And these
TAV had - da - VAR b' - 'é - NÉ ham - ME - lekh vay - YA - 'as KÉN
words really pleased the ki - ing, and he act - ed upon them.


2.6 Lamentations melody
a - sh – er hog - la - a mi'rush - a la – yim
Kish had been ex - iled from Je – ru - sa - lem
im hag - go - la - a asher ho - gl' ta - a
along with the captives that were carried off.
i - i - im Yecon - yah melech Ye - hu - da - a - ah,
with Je - co - ni - i - ah, king of Ju - u - dah,
ashe - er heg' la - a Nebuchad - ne - et - tzar me - lech Ba - ve - e - el
They were sent into exile by Nebuchadnezzar, king of Ba - by - lon

3 וְיַפְקֵד
הַמֶּלֶךְ פְּקִידִים בְּכָל־מְדִינוֹת מַלְכוּתוֹ
וְיִקְבְּצוּ אֶת־כָּל־נַעֲרָה־בְתוּלָה טוֹבַת
מַרְאֶה אֶל־שׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה אֶל־בֵּית הַנָּשִׁים
אֶל־יַד הֵגֵא סְרִיס הַמֶּלֶךְ שֹׁמֵר הַנָּשִׁים
וְנָתוֹן תַּמְרוּקֵיהֶן׃ 4 וְהַנַּעֲרָה אֲשֶׁר תִּיטַב
בְּעֵינֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ תִּמְלֹךְ תַּחַת וַשְׁתִּי וַיִּיטַב
הַדָּבָר בְּעֵינֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיַּעַשׂ כֵּן׃ ס
5 אִישׁ יְהוּדִי הָיָה בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה וּשְׁמוֹ
מָרְדֳּכַי בֶּן יָאִיר בֶּן־שִׁמְעִי בֶּן־קִישׁ אִישׁ
יְמִינִי׃ 6 אֲשֶׁר הָגְלָה מִירוּשָׁלַיִם עִם־
הַגּוֹלָה אֲשֶׁר הָגְלְתָה עִם יְכָנְיָה מֶלֶךְ־
יְהוּדָה אֲשֶׁר הָגְלָה נְבוּכַדְנֶאצַּר מֶלֶךְ
בָּבֶל׃ 7 וַיְהִי אֹמֵן אֶת־הֲדַסָּה הִיא אֶסְתֵּר
בַּת־דֹּדוֹ כִּי אֵין לָהּ אָב וְאֵם וְהַנַּעֲרָה
יְפַת־תֹּאַר וְטוֹבַת מַרְאֶה וּבְמוֹת אָבִיהָ
וְאִמָּהּ לְקָחָהּ מָרְדֳּכַי לוֹ לְבַת׃

7 Mordecai had raised Hadassah, known as Esther
––[his uncle’s daughter]––
[because of the fact] that she had
no father or mother. The girl had a nice figure and a beautiful face,
and with the death of her mother and father, Mordecai[had adopted her]as[his own
daughter].

2:8[And it happened], when they heard[the word of the king]and his decree,

[when they brought] [some girls] [in great numbers]

to Shushan the citadel under the charge of Hegai,

[they took]Esther to the palace of the king, into the care of Hegai , guardian of the women.

9 [The king found her pleasing]--the maiden--[in his eyes]; she won favor[before him].

[He made haste to prepare for her]cosmetics and rations, to give[to her],

and he had seven maids chosen to attend her , from the house of the king,

[and he transferred her] [together with the maids] [to the best place] in the harem

10 Esther did not reveal her people or her kindred

[because of the fact] [that Mordecai] instructed her not to tell.

11 Day after day Mordecai would walk in front of the court of the women's quarter

to find out about Esther's welfare,[and what was happening]to her.

12[When her turn arrived]--[the turn]for one of the girls [to go] | to King Ahasuerus,

[at the end] of her prescribed days

as was the law for women: twelve months, [because this was the time] that it took beautify them:

six months with oil of myrrh and six months with perfumes and with women's cosmetics.

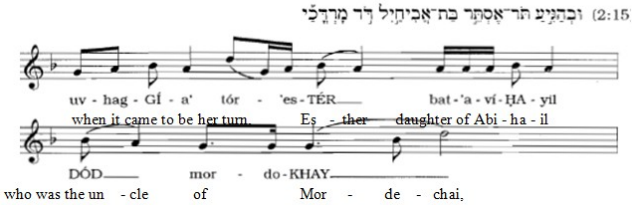
13[When thus prepared], the maiden would go to the king and whatever she would ask for

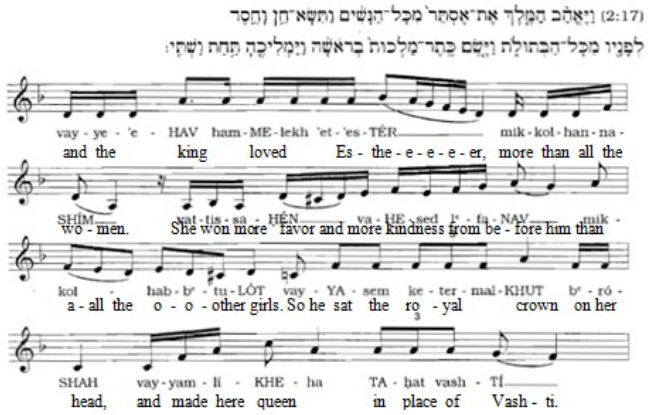
8 וַיְהִי
בְּהִשָּׁמַע דְּבַר־הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ וּבְהִקָּבֵץ
נְעָרוֹת רַבּוֹת אֶל־שׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה אֶל־יַד
הֵגַי וַתֻּלָּקַח אֶסְתֵּר אֶל־בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל־יַד
הֵגַי שֹׁמֵר הַנָּשִׁים׃ 9 וַתִּיטַב הַנַּעֲרָה בְּעֵינָיו
וַתִּשָּׂא חֶסֶד לְפָנָיו וַיְבַהֵל אֶת־תַּמְרוּקֶיהָ
וְאֶת־מָנוֹתֶהָ לָתֵת לָהּ וְאֵת שֶׁבַע הַנְּעָרוֹת
הָרְאיוֹת לָתֵת־לָהּ מִבֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיְשַׁנֶּהָ
וְאֶת־נַעֲרוֹתֶיהָ לְטוֹב בֵּית הַנָּשִׁים׃ 10 לֹא־
הִגִּידָה אֶסְתֵּר אֶת־עַמָּהּ וְאֶת־מוֹלַדְתָּהּ
כִּי מָרְדֳּכַי צִוָּה עָלֶיהָ אֲשֶׁר לֹא־תַגִּיד׃
11 וּבְכָל־יוֹם וָיוֹם מָרְדֳּכַי מִתְהַלֵּךְ לִפְנֵי
חֲצַר בֵּית־הַנָּשִׁים לָדַעַת אֶת־שְׁלוֹם
אֶסְתֵּר וּמַה־יֵּעָשֶׂה בָּהּ׃ 12 וּבְהַגִּיעַ תֹּר
נַעֲרָה וְנַעֲרָה לָבוֹא | אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ מִקֵּץ הֱיוֹת לָהּ כְּדָת הַנָּשִׁים
שְׁנֵים עָשָׂר חֹדֶשׁ כִּי כֵן יִמְלְאוּ יְמֵי
מְרוּקֵיהֶן שִׁשָּׁה חֳדָשִׁים בְּשֶׁמֶן הַמֹּר
וְשִׁשָּׁה חֳדָשִׁים בַּבְּשָׂמִים וּבְתַמְרוּקֵי
הַנָּשִׁים׃ 13 וּבָזֹּה הַנַּעֲרָה בָּאָה אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר תֹּאמַר יִנָּתֵן לָהּ לָבוֹא עִמָּהּ
מִבֵּית הַנָּשִׁים עַד־בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ׃ 14 בָּעֶרֶב |
הַיא בָאָה ׀ וּבַבֹּקֶר הִיא שָׁבָה אֶל־בֵּית
הַנָּשִׁים שֵׁנִי אֶל־יַד שַׁעַשְׁגַּז סְרִיס הַמֶּלֶךְ
שֹׁמֵר הַפִּילַגְשִׁים לֹא־תָבוֹא עוֹד אֶל־
הַמֶּלֶךְ כִּי אִם־חָפַץ בָּהּ הַמֶּלֶךְ וְנִקְרְאָה
בְשֵׁם׃

would be given[to her]to take[with her] from the women’s quarters to the house of the king.

14 In the evening |she[would go there],[and in the morning]she returned to a second house for women,

[in the charge] [of Shaashgaz], the king’s eunuch , guardian of the concubines.

[She would not go]again to the king unless the king[should desire her], [and he summoned her]by name.

(2:15) וּבְהַגִּיעַ תֹּר־אֶסְתֵּר בַּת־אֲבִיחַיִל דֹּד מָרְדֳּכָי
uv - hag - GÍ - a' tór - 'es - TÉR bat - 'a - ví - ḤA - yil
when it came to be her turn Es - ther daughter of Abi - ha - il
DÔD mor - do - KHAY
who was the un - cle of Mor - de - chai,

15 וּבְהַגִּיעַ תֹּר־אֶסְתֵּר בַּת־אֲבִיחַיִל
דֹּד מָרְדֳּכַי אֲשֶׁר לָקַח־לוֹ לְבַת לָבוֹא
אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ לֹא בִקְּשָׁה דָּבָר כִּי אִם אֶת־
אֲשֶׁר יֹאמַר הֵגֵי סְרִיס־הַמֶּלֶךְ שֹׁמֵר
הַנָּשִׁים וַתְּהִי אֶסְתֵּר נֹשֵׂאת חֵן בְּעֵינֵי
כָּל־רֹאֶיהָ: 16 וַתִּלָּקַח אֶסְתֵּר אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ אֶל־בֵּית מַלְכוּתוֹ בַּחֹדֶשׁ
הָעֲשִׂירִי הוּא־חֹדֶשׁ טֵבֵת בִּשְׁנַת־שְׁבַע
לְמַלְכוּתוֹ: 17 וַיֶּאֱהַב הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת־אֶסְתֵּר
מִכָּל־הַנָּשִׁים וַתִּשָּׂא־חֵן וָחֶסֶד לְפָנָיו
מִכָּל־הַבְּתוּלֹת וַיָּשֶׂם כֶּתֶר־מַלְכוּת
בְּרֹאשָׁהּ וַיַּמְלִיכֶהָ תַּחַת וַשְׁתִּי: 18 וַיַּעַשׂ
הַמֶּלֶךְ מִשְׁתֶּה גָּדוֹל לְכָל־שָׂרָיו וַעֲבָדָיו
אֶת מִשְׁתֵּה אֶסְתֵּר וַהֲנָחָה לַמְּדִינוֹת עָשָׂה
וַיִּתֵּן מַשָּׂאת כְּיַד הַמֶּלֶךְ: 19 וּבְהִקָּבֵץ
בְּתוּלוֹת שֵׁנִית וּמָרְדֳּכַי יֹשֵׁב בְּשַׁעַר־
הַמֶּלֶךְ: 20 אֵין אֶסְתֵּר מַגֶּדֶת מוֹלַדְתָּהּ
וְאֶת־עַמָּהּ כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה עָלֶיהָ מָרְדֳּכָי
וְאֶת־מַאֲמַר מָרְדֳּכַי אֶסְתֵּר עֹשָׂה כַּאֲשֶׁר
הָיְתָה בְאָמְנָה אִתּוֹ: ס 21 בַּיָּמִים

(2:17) וַיֶּאֱהַב הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת־אֶסְתֵּר מִכָּל־הַנָּשִׁים וַתִּשָּׂא־חֵן וָחֶסֶד
לְפָנָיו מִכָּל־הַבְּתוּלֹת וַיָּשֶׂם כֶּתֶר־מַלְכוּת בְּרֹאשָׁהּ וַיַּמְלִיכֶהָ תַּחַת וַשְׁתִּי:
vay - ye - 'e - HAV ham - ME - lekh 'et - 'es - TÉR mik - kol - han - na -
and the king loved Es - the - e - e - e - er, more than all the
SHÍM nat - tis - sa - ḤÉN va - ḤE - sed ' - fa - NAV mik -
wo - men. She won more favor and more kindness from be - fore him than
kol hab - b' - tu - LÓT vay - YA - sem ke - ter - mal - KHUT b' - ró -
a - all the o - o - other girls. So he sat the ro - yal crown on her
SHAH vay - yam - lí - KHE - ha TA - ḥat vash - TÍ
head, and made here queen in place of Vash - ti.

[*that* Mordecai] who had adopted her as a daughter
to go[to the king], she asked for nothing[except for that]which had[already been advised]
by Hegai the king's eunuch , guardian of the women,
and indeed Esther[did find]favor in the eyes[of all who saw her].

16 And Esther was taken to King Ahasuerus, to his royal palace,
in the tenth month , which is the month of Tevet,
[in the seventh year]of his reign.

17 And the king loved Esther[more than all the women].
[She won more favor] [as well as more kindness]
from before him,[than all the other girls].
So he set the royal crown on her head,
and made her queen in place of Vashti.

18 The king then gave a huge banquet
for all the officials and servants, called "The Feast of Esther".
He proclaimed a holiday for all the provinces, and distributed gifts as befits a king.

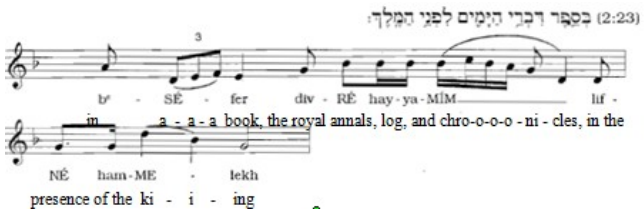
19 Then the maidens were gathered [a second time], and Mordecai sat at the king's gate,

20 Still Esther[did not reveal]who were her kindred or her people,
[just as it had been] instructed to her by Mordecai,
for the bidding of Mordecai she obeyed, [just as it had been] when she was brought up by him.

21 In that time, when Mordecai was sitting[at the palace gate],[two became enraged]: Bigthan and Teresh,
two eunuchs of the king who guarded the threshhold, and they sought to lay hands[on King]Ahashuerus.

22 וַיִּוָּדַע הַדָּבָר לְמָרְדֳּכָי וַיַּגֶּד לְאֶסְתֵּר
הַמַּלְכָּה וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר לַמֶּלֶךְ בְּשֵׁם
מָרְדֳּכָי׃ 23 וַיְבֻקַּשׁ הַדָּבָר וַיִּמָּצֵא וַיִּתָּלוּ
שְׁנֵיהֶם עַל־עֵץ וַיִּכָּתֵב בְּסֵפֶר דִּבְרֵי הַיָּמִים
לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ׃ פ

2:22 The matter became known to Mordecai,[and he told it]to Esther the queen,
and Esther[passed the story on]to the king in the name of Mordecai.

23 They looked into the matter,
[and found it to be so],
and the two were impaled on stakes.
[This was recorded]
[in a book]--the royal annals, log, and Chronicles--
in the presence of the king.

בְּסֵפֶר דִּבְרֵי הַיָּמִים לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ׃ (2:23)
3
bə - SÉ - fer div - RÉ hay - ya - MÍM lif -
in a - a - a book, the royal annals, log, and chro-o-o-o - ni - cles, in the
NÉ ham - ME - lekh
presence of the ki - i - ing

3 אַחַר ׀ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה גִּדַּל֙ הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ אֶת־הָמָ֣ן בֶּן־הַמְּדָתָ֔א הָאֲגָגִ֖י
וַיְנַשְּׂאֵ֑הוּ וַיָּ֣שֶׂם אֶת־כִּסְא֗וֹ מֵעַ֛ל כָּל־
הַשָּׂרִ֥ים אֲשֶׁר־אִתּ֖וֹ׃ 2 וְכָל־עַבְדֵ֣י הַמֶּ֔לֶךְ
אֲשֶׁר־בְּשַׁ֥עַר הַמֶּ֖לֶךְ כֹּרְעִ֣ים וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוִ֑ים
לְהָמָ֔ן כִּי־כֵ֥ן צִוָּה־לֹ֖ו הַמֶּ֑לֶךְ וּמָרְדֳּכַ֛י לֹ֥א
יִכְרַ֖ע וְלֹ֥א יִשְׁתַּחֲוֶֽה׃ 3 וַיֹּאמְר֣וּ עַבְדֵ֔י
הַמֶּ֖לֶךְ אֲשֶׁר־בְּשַׁ֣עַר הַמֶּ֑לֶךְ לְמָרְדֳּכַ֗י מַדּ֛וּעַ
אַתָּ֥ה עֹבֵ֖ר אֶת־מִצְוַ֥ת הַמֶּֽלֶךְ׃ 4 וַיְהִ֗י
באמרם כְּאָמְרָ֤ם אֵלָיו֙ יֹ֣ום וָיֹ֔ום וְלֹ֥א שָׁמַ֖ע
אֲלֵיהֶ֑ם וַיַּגִּ֣ידוּ לְהָמָ֔ן לִרְאֹ֕ות הֲיַעַמְד֥וּ
דִּבְרֵי־מָרְדֳּכַ֖י כִּי־הִגִּ֣יד לָהֶ֑ם אֲשֶׁר־הוּא
יְהוּדִֽי׃ 5 וַיַּ֤רְא הָמָן֙ כִּי־אֵ֣ין מָרְדֳּכַ֔י כֹּרֵ֥עַ
וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוֶ֖ה לֹ֑ו וַיִּמָּ֥לֵא הָמָ֖ן חֵמָֽה׃ 6 וַיָּ֗בֶז
בְּעֵינָיו֙ לִשְׁלֹ֣חַ יָ֔ד בְּמָרְדֳּכַ֖י לְבַדֹּ֑ו כִּי־הִגִּ֣ידוּ
לֹ֗ו אֶת־עַ֛ם מָרְדֳּכָ֖י וַיְבַקֵּ֣שׁ הָמָ֗ן לְהַשְׁמִ֤יד
אֶת־כָּל־הַיְּהוּדִים֙ אֲשֶׁ֣ר בְּכָל־מַלְכ֣וּת
אֲחַשְׁוֵרֹ֔וש עַ֖ם מָרְדֳּכָֽי׃

3:1[It was some time]|after[all of these events], King Ahasuerus promoted Haman [son of Hammedatha]the Agagite and advanced him,
and set his seat[over and above] [all of the the princes] who were with him.

2 All the king's servants at[the palace gate] [knelt down] and bowed low to Haman,
for thus had commanded the king.[But Mordecai] would not kneel and would not
bow down.
3 Then there spoke the courtiers—[servants of the king] who were at the palace
gate to Mordecai,
"Why do you transgress the command of the king?"
4 [And it happened] [when they spoke] [to him]day after day and he would not liste
[to them]
[that they told it]to Haman to see if the words of Mordecai would prevail,
for he had told them that he was a Jew.
5 When Haman saw that Mordecai would not bow down and prostrate himself to
him,
then Haman was filled with rage.
6 But[he disdained]to lay hands on Mordecai alone, for they had told him of
Mordecai's people.
[Instead sought]Haman [to destroy] [all of the Jews]
[who lived throughout] the kingdom of Ahasuerus : the kin of Mordecai.

3:7[In the first]month, which is the month of Nissan, in the twelfth year of King
Ahasuerus,
they cast the *pur* --this was the lot--in the presence of Haman
[to determine the day]|[casting day to day], [beginning the first month],
till it fell on the twelfth month , which is the month of Adar.

בַּחֹדֶשׁ הָרִאשׁוֹן 7
הוּא־חֹדֶשׁ נִיסָן בִּשְׁנַת שְׁתֵּים עֶשְׂרֵה
לַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ הִפִּיל פּוּר הוּא הַגּוֹרָל
לִפְנֵי הָמָן מִיּוֹם ׀ לְיוֹם וּמֵחֹדֶשׁ לְחֹדֶשׁ
שְׁנֵים־עָשָׂר הוּא־חֹדֶשׁ אֲדָר׃ ס
8 וַיֹּאמֶר הָמָן לַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ יֶשְׁנוֹ
עַם־אֶחָד מְפֻזָּר וּמְפֹרָד בֵּין הָעַמִּים בְּכֹל
מְדִינוֹת מַלְכוּתֶךָ וְדָתֵיהֶם שֹׁנוֹת מִכָּל־עָם
וְאֶת־דָּתֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֵינָם עֹשִׂים וְלַמֶּלֶךְ
אֵין־שֹׁוֶה לְהַנִּיחָם׃ 9 אִם־עַל־הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב
יִכָּתֵב לְאַבְּדָם וַעֲשֶׂרֶת אֲלָפִים כִּכַּר־כֶּסֶף
אֶשְׁקוֹל עַל־יְדֵי עֹשֵׂי הַמְּלָאכָה לְהָבִיא
אֶל־גִּנְזֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ׃ 10 וַיָּסַר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת־
טַבַּעְתּוֹ מֵעַל יָדוֹ וַיִּתְּנָהּ לְהָמָן בֶּן־הַמְּדָתָא
הָאֲגָגִי צֹרֵר הַיְּהוּדִים׃ 11 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ
לְהָמָן הַכֶּסֶף נָתוּן לָךְ וְהָעָם לַעֲשׂוֹת בּוֹ
כַּטּוֹב בְּעֵינֶיךָ׃ 12 וַיִּקָּרְאוּ סֹפְרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ
בַּחֹדֶשׁ הָרִאשׁוֹן בִּשְׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר יוֹם בּוֹ
וַיִּכָּתֵב כְּכָל־אֲשֶׁר־צִוָּה הָמָן אֶל
אֲחַשְׁדַּרְפְּנֵי־הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֶל־הַפַּחוֹת אֲשֶׁר ׀
עַל־מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה וְאֶל־שָׂרֵי עַם וָעָם
מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה כִּכְתָבָהּ וְעַם וָעָם כִּלְשׁוֹנוֹ
בְּשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ נִכְתָּב וְנַחְתָּם
בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ׃ 13 וְנִשְׁלוֹחַ סְפָרִים בְּיַד
הָרָצִים אֶל־כָּל־מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהַשְׁמִיד
לַהֲרֹג וּלְאַבֵּד אֶת־כָּל־הַיְּהוּדִים מִנַּעַר
וְעַד־זָקֵן טַף וְנָשִׁים בְּיוֹם אֶחָד בִּשְׁלוֹשָׁה
עָשָׂר לְחֹדֶשׁ שְׁנֵים־עָשָׂר הוּא־חֹדֶשׁ אֲדָר
וּשְׁלָלָם לָבוֹז׃

8 And Haman said to King Ahasuerus, “There is[a certain people], scattered and dispersed
among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom.
[The laws that they observe] are different[from those of other people],
and the laws of the king they do not observe.To the king it is not befitting to tolerate them.
9 If it pleases the king, let there be a decree[to destroy them], and ten thousand
[talents of silver]
I will pay into the hands of those who do the deed, to bring it into the treasuries of the king.
10[And so the king] [proceeded to remove] [his signet ring]from his hand,
[and handed it over] [to Haman] [son of Hammedatha]the Agagite, the enemy of the Jews.
11 Then said the king to Haman, “The silver is given to you,
[and also the people], to do with them what seems good in your eyes.”
12 [Then were summoned] the scribes of the king in[the first month], on the thirteenth day[of the month]. [And the orders were written],[according to all that was commanded]by Haman, to the regents —
[the satraps of the king],[to the governors]who | preside[over all]the provinces
[in their own script],[and to the]officials[of every people]; all the nations in their own language,
in the name of King Ahasuerus it was written, and sealed by the signet ring of the king.

13 Letters were dispatched by[the hand of runners]to all the provinces of the king;
[saying to destroy], to massacre, to exterminate,[all of the Jews]from young to old,
including children and women, on a single day[on the] [thirteenth day] of the twelfth month ,
which is the month of Adar, and to plunder their possessions.

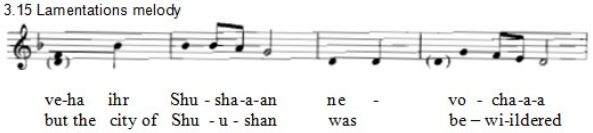
3:14 Copies[of this written document] [were to be proclaimed]in every province,
and displayed to all the peoples, for them to be ready [for that day].

15 The couriers[went out]posthaste by order of the king, and the decree was proclaimed
in Shushan the capital.
The king and Haman sat down to drink,
but the city of Shushan was bewildered.

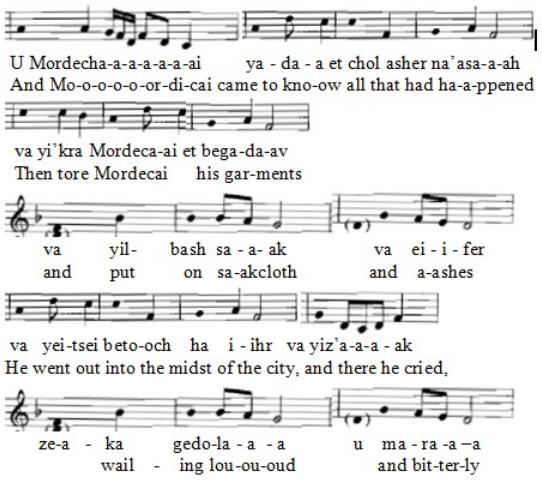
4:1 And Mordecai[came to know]all that had happened.
Then tore Mordecai his garments,
and put on sackcloth and ashes.
He went out into the midst of the city,
[and there he cried], wailing loud and bitterly.

2 [And he came] [as far as]the front of the palace gate,

3.15 Lamentations melody

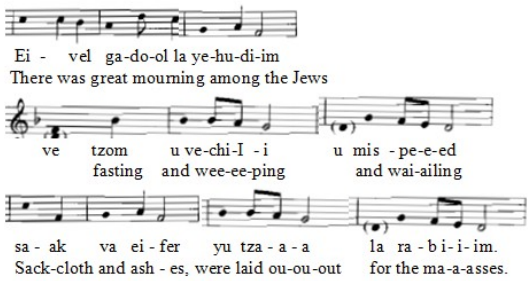


4.1 Lamentations melody


U Mordecha-a-a-a-a-a-ai ya - da - a et chol asher na'asa-a-ah
And Mo-o-o-o-o-or-di-cai came to kno-ow all that had ha-a-ppened
va yi'kra Mordeca-ai et bega-da-av
Then tore Mordecai his gar-ments
va yil- bash sa - a- ak va ei - i - fer
and put on sa-akcloth and a-shes
va yei-tsei beto-och ha i - ihr va yiz'a-a-a - ak
He went out into the midst of the city, and there he cried,
ze-a - ka gedo-la - a - a u ma - ra -a –a
wail - ing lou-ou-oud and bit-ter-ly

14 פַּתְשֶׁגֶן הַכְּתָב לְהִנָּתֵן
דָּת בְּכָל־מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה גָּלוּי לְכָל־
הָעַמִּים לִהְיוֹת עֲתִדִים לַיּוֹם הַזֶּה׃
15 הָרָצִים יָצְאוּ דְחוּפִים בִּדְבַר הַמֶּלֶךְ
וְהַדָּת נִתְּנָה בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה וְהַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמָן
יָשְׁבוּ לִשְׁתּוֹת וְהָעִיר שׁוּשָׁן נָבוֹכָה׃ פ
4 וּמָרְדֳּכַי יָדַע אֶת־כָּל־אֲשֶׁר נַעֲשָׂה
וַיְקָרַע מָרְדֳּכַי אֶת־בְּגָדָיו וַיִּלְבַּשׁ שַׂק וָאֵפֶר
וַיֵּצֵא בְּתוֹךְ הָעִיר וַיִּזְעַק זְעָקָה גְּדֹלָה
וּמָרָה׃ 2 וַיָּבֹא עַד לִפְנֵי שַׁעַר־הַמֶּלֶךְ כִּי
אֵין לָבוֹא אֶל־שַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ בִּלְבוּשׁ שָׂק׃
3 וּבְכָל־מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה מְקוֹם אֲשֶׁר דְּבַר־
הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ מַגִּיעַ אֵבֶל גָּדוֹל לַיְּהוּדִים
וְצוֹם וּבְכִי וּמִסְפֵּד שַׂק וָאֵפֶר יֻצַּע לָרַבִּים׃

for [no one was] [allowed to walk in through]
the king’s gate dressed in sackcloth.
3 And in province after province, any place
where[the king’s word]and his decree did
reach,
[there was great]mourning[among the Jews];
fasting and weeping and wailing.
Sackcloth and ashes[were laid out]for the
masses.

4.3 Lamentations melody

Ei - vel ga-do-ol la ye-hu-di-im
There was great mourning among the Jews
ve tzom u ve-chi-I - i u mis - pe-e-ed
fasting and wee-ee-ping and wai-ailing
sa - ak va ei - fer yu tza - a - a la ra - b i - i - im.
Sack-cloth and ash - es, were laid ou-ou-out for the ma-a-asses.

4:4 [When there came] the maidens of Esther and her eunuchs who told her[about it],

the queen was distressed exceedingly. She sent some garments [with which] [to dress Mordecai],

[and to take] [his sackcloth away] [from him]. But he would not accept them.

5 [Then Esther] summoned Hathach,[one of the king's]eunuchs whom he had appointed to attend her,

[and he sent him]to Mordecai, to learn what this was about and what it means.

6 Hathach went out to Mordecai in the city square,[in front of] the palace gate.

7 Then Mordecai[told him]what had happened to him, [and also about]| the portion —

[the exact amount of money] which was offered by Haman [to deposit into]the royal[treasuries of the king], for the Jews—[to destroy them].

8 And a copy[of the written decree]which was proclaimed in Shushan for their destruction he gave[to him] to show to Esther so she would know. And to demand[of her] that she go[to the king] [and appeal to him] and to plead before him [for her people].

9 Then came Hathach and told Esther what it was that Mordecai had said.

10 And spoke Esther to Hathach,[and gave him a command]for Mordechai.

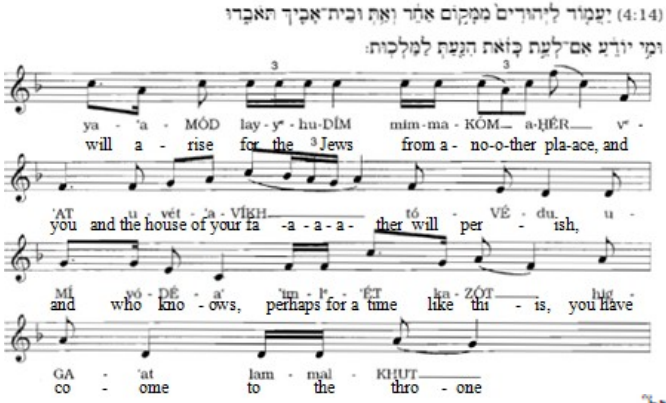
11 All the servants[of the king] [and the people] of the provinces of the king:

[these all know]that for any man[or for any woman]

who goes[to the king]in the inner court who[has not been called]

[there is one]decree:[to be put to death]. [With the exception of] the one

4 וַתְּבוֹאינָה נַעֲרוֹת אֶסְתֵּר וְסָרִיסֶיהָ וַיַּגִּידוּ לָהּ וַתִּתְחַלְחַל הַמַּלְכָּה מְאֹד וַתִּשְׁלַח בְּגָדִים לְהַלְבִּישׁ אֶת־מָרְדֳּכָי וּלְהָסִיר שַׂקּוֹ מֵעָלָיו וְלֹא קִבֵּל׃ 5 וַתִּקְרָא אֶסְתֵּר לַהֲתָךְ מִסָּרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר הֶעֱמִיד לְפָנֶיהָ וַתְּצַוֵּהוּ עַל־מָרְדֳּכָי לָדַעַת מַה־זֶּה וְעַל־מַה־זֶּה׃ 6 וַיֵּצֵא הֲתָךְ אֶל־מָרְדֳּכָי אֶל־רְחוֹב הָעִיר אֲשֶׁר לִפְנֵי שַׁעַר־הַמֶּלֶךְ׃ 7 וַיַּגֶּד־לוֹ מָרְדֳּכַי אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר קָרָהוּ וְאֵת | פָּרָשַׁת הַכֶּסֶף אֲשֶׁר אָמַר הָמָן לְשְׁקוֹל עַל־גִּנְזֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ בַּיְּהוּדִים לְאַבְּדָם׃ 8 וְאֶת־פַּתְשֶׁגֶן כְּתָב־הַדָּת אֲשֶׁר־נִתַּן בְּשׁוּשָׁן לְהַשְׁמִידָם נָתַן לוֹ לְהַרְאוֹת אֶת־אֶסְתֵּר וּלְהַגִּיד לָהּ וּלְצַוּוֹת עָלֶיהָ לָבוֹא אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהִתְחַנֵּן־לוֹ וּלְבַקֵּשׁ מִלְפָנָיו עַל־עַמָּהּ׃ 9 וַיָּבוֹא הֲתָךְ וַיַּגֶּד לְאֶסְתֵּר אֵת דִּבְרֵי מָרְדֳּכָי׃ 10 וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר לַהֲתָךְ וַתְּצַוֵּהוּ אֶל־מָרְדֳּכָי׃ 11 כָּל־עַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְעַם־מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ יוֹדְעִים אֲשֶׁר כָּל־אִישׁ וְאִשָּׁה אֲשֶׁר יָבוֹא־אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל־הֶחָצֵר הַפְּנִימִית אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יִקָּרֵא אַחַת דָּתוֹ לְהָמִית לְבַד מֵאֲשֶׁר יושׁיט־לוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת־שַׁרְבִּיט הַזָּהָב וְחָיָה וַאֲנִי לֹא נִקְרֵאתִי לָבוֹא אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ זֶה שְׁלוֹשִׁים יוֹם׃ 12 וַיַּגִּידוּ לְמָרְדֳּכָי אֵת דִּבְרֵי אֶסְתֵּר׃ פ 13 וַיֹּאמֶר מָרְדֳּכַי לְהָשִׁיב אֶל־אֶסְתֵּר אַל־תְּדַמִּי בְנַפְשֵׁךְ לְהִמָּלֵט בֵּית־הַמֶּלֶךְ מִכָּל־הַיְּהוּדִים׃

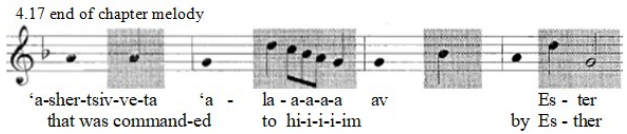
to whom[is extended by the king] the golden scepter––[*that one* may live].
But I[have not been]summoned to go to the king[for these last] thirty days.
12 So they told Mordecai these words of Esther.
13 Then said Mordecai responding to Esther, “Do not imagine[in your heart]
that you will escape by being in the king’s palace ,[you alone of the Jews].

(4:14) יַעֲמֹד לַיְהוּדִים מִמָּקוֹם אַחֵר וְאַתְּ וּבֵית־אָבִיךְ תֹּאבֵדוּ
וּמִי יוֹדֵעַ אִם־לְעֵת כָּזֹאת הִגַּעַתְּ לַמַּלְכוּת׃
ya - 'a - MÓD lay - y' - hu-DÍM mim-ma - KÓM— a-ḤÉR— v' -
will a - rise for the 3Jews from a - no-o-ther pla-ace, and
'AT u - vét - 'a - VÍKH— tó - VÉ - du u -
you and the house of your fa -a - a - a - ther will per - ish,
MÍ - yó - DÉ - a' 'im - l' - 'ÉT ka - ZÓT— hi -
and who kno - ows, perhaps for a time like thi - is, you have
GA - 'at lam - mal - KHUT—
co - ome to the thro - one

4:14 For[if you persist] [in remaining silent[at this time],
relief[and deliverance]] will arise]for the Jews
from another place, and you and the house of your father will perish,and who knows--
perhaps[for a time like this]
you have come to the throne."

15 Then said Esther responding to Mordecai,

16 "[Go right now]and gather all the Jews
[who can be found] [in Shushan],
and fast[on my behalf]. Do not eat or drink for three full days, night or day.
Also I and my maids will fast as well.
[After that]I will go to the king, which is against the law,
and if I am to perish , I will perish.

17 Then left Mordecai,[and carried out][all of the things] that were commanded to him by Esther.

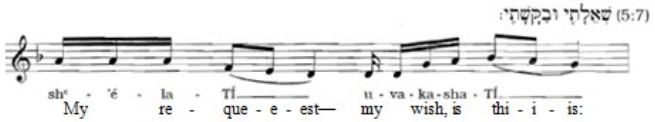


14 כִּי אִם־הַחֲרֵשׁ תַּחֲרִישִׁי
בָּעֵת הַזֹּאת רֶוַח וְהַצָּלָה יַעֲמֹוד לַיְּהוּדִים
מִמָּקוֹם אַחֵר וְאַתְּ וּבֵית־אָבִיךְ תֹּאבֵדוּ
וּמִי יוֹדֵעַ אִם־לְעֵת כָּזֹאת הִגַּעַתְּ
לַמַּלְכוּת׃ 15 וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר לְהָשִׁיב אֶל־
מָרְדֳּכָי׃ 16 לֵךְ כְּנוֹס אֶת־כָּל־הַיְּהוּדִים
הַנִּמְצְאִים בְּשׁוּשָׁן וְצוּמוּ עָלַי וְאַל־
תֹּאכְלוּ וְאַל־תִּשְׁתּוּ שְׁלֹשֶׁת יָמִים לַיְלָה
וָיוֹם גַּם־אֲנִי וְנַעֲרֹתַי אָצוּם כֵּן וּבְכֵן אָבוֹא
אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר לֹא־כַדָּת וְכַאֲשֶׁר אָבַדְתִּי
אָבָדְתִּי׃ 17 וַיַּעֲבֹר מָרְדֳּכָי וַיַּעַשׂ כְּכֹל
אֲשֶׁר־צִוְּתָה עָלָיו אֶסְתֵּר׃ ס **5** וַיְהִי׀
בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי וַתִּלְבַּשׁ אֶסְתֵּר מַלְכוּת
וַתַּעֲמֹד בַּחֲצַר בֵּית־הַמֶּלֶךְ הַפְּנִימִית נֹכַח
בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַמֶּלֶךְ יוֹשֵׁב עַל־כִּסֵּא
מַלְכוּתוֹ בְּבֵית הַמַּלְכוּת נֹכַח פֶּתַח
הַבָּיִת׃ 2 וַיְהִי כִרְאוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת־אֶסְתֵּר
הַמַּלְכָּה עֹמֶדֶת בֶּחָצֵר נָשְׂאָה חֵן בְּעֵינָיו
וַיּוֹשֶׁט הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאֶסְתֵּר אֶת־שַׁרְבִיט הַזָּהָב
אֲשֶׁר בְּיָדוֹ וַתִּקְרַב אֶסְתֵּר וַתִּגַּע בְּרֹאשׁ
הַשַּׁרְבִיט׃ ס 3 וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ הַמֶּלֶךְ
מַה־לָּךְ אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה וּמַה־בַּקָּשָׁתֵךְ עַד־
חֲצִי הַמַּלְכוּת וְיִנָּתֵן לָךְ׃

5:1[And so it was],| on the third[day of the fast], that Esther put on her royal robes,
[and she stood] in the court[of the king's palace],[the inner court], facing the house of the king,

[and the king at this time] [was sitting]on his royal throne in the royal palace,
facing the entrance of the palace.
2 And it happened when the king had seen Esther the Queen standing in the courtyard
that she found favor in his eyes. The king extended [to Esther]the golden scepter that was in his hand.
Then Esther came near and touched the tip of the scepter.
3 He then spoke to her—[the king asked], “What is with you, Esther the Queen?
[What is your request?] Even half the kingdom––it will be given to you.”

5:4 Esther replied, if it please the king,
do come––the king and Haman––today to the banquet that I have prepared for him.
5 And the king said, bring Haman quickly, to fulfill the word of Esther.
[And they came]––the king and Haman––to the banquet prepared by Esther .
6 The king said to Esther at the banquet of wine, “[What is your wish]? It shall be b
granted to you.
[What is your request]? Even half the kingdom ,[it shall be fulfilled]”.
7 Then Esther answered saying,
“My request;[my wish––is this]:
8 If I have found favor in the eyes of the king;
if to the king it seems good to grant my wish, to fulfill my request: do come––the king and Haman,



4 וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר
אִם־עַל־הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב יָבוֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמָן
הַיּוֹם אֶל־הַמִּשְׁתֶּה אֲשֶׁר־עָשִׂיתִי לוֹ׃
5 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ מַהֲרוּ אֶת־הָמָן לַעֲשׂוֹת
אֶת־דְּבַר אֶסְתֵּר וַיָּבֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמָן אֶל־
הַמִּשְׁתֶּה אֲשֶׁר־עָשְׂתָה אֶסְתֵּר׃ 6 וַיֹּאמֶר
הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאֶסְתֵּר בְּמִשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן מַה־
שְּׁאֵלָתֵךְ וְיִנָּתֶן לָךְ וּמַה־בַּקָּשָׁתֵךְ עַד־חֲצִי
הַמַּלְכוּת וְתֵעָשׂ׃ 7 וַתַּעַן אֶסְתֵּר וַתֹּאמַר
שְׁאֵלָתִי וּבַקָּשָׁתִי׃ 8 אִם־מָצָאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאִם־עַל־הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב לָתֵת אֶת־
שְׁאֵלָתִי וְלַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת־בַּקָּשָׁתִי יָבוֹא
הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמָן אֶל־הַמִּשְׁתֶּה אֲשֶׁר אֶעֱשֶׂה
לָהֶם וּמָחָר אֶעֱשֶׂה כִּדְבַר הַמֶּלֶךְ׃ 9 וַיֵּצֵא
הָמָן בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא שָׂמֵחַ וְטוֹב לֵב וְכִרְאוֹת
הָמָן אֶת־מָרְדֳּכַי בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ וְלֹא־קָם
וְלֹא־זָע מִמֶּנּוּ וַיִּמָּלֵא הָמָן עַל־מָרְדֳּכָי
חֵמָה׃ 10 וַיִּתְאַפַּק הָמָן וַיָּבוֹא אֶל־בֵּיתוֹ
וַיִּשְׁלַח וַיָּבֵא אֶת־אֹהֲבָיו וְאֶת־זֶרֶשׁ
אִשְׁתּוֹ׃ 11 וַיְסַפֵּר לָהֶם הָמָן אֶת־כְּבוֹד
עָשְׁרוֹ וְרֹב בָּנָיו וְאֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר גִּדְּלוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ
וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר נִשְּׂאוֹ עַל־הַשָּׂרִים וַעַבְדֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ׃ 12 וַיֹּאמֶר הָמָן אַף לֹא־הֵבִיאָה
אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה עִם־הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל־הַמִּשְׁתֶּה
אֲשֶׁר־עָשָׂתָה כִּי אִם־אוֹתִי וְגַם־לְמָחָר
אֲנִי קָרוּא־לָהּ עִם־הַמֶּלֶךְ׃ 13 וְכָל־זֶה
אֵינֶנּוּ שֹׁוֶה לִי בְּכָל־עֵת אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי רֹאֶה
אֶת־מָרְדֳּכַי הַיְּהוּדִי יוֹשֵׁב בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ׃

to the feast that I prepared for them, and tomorrow I will fulfill the word of the king.”

9 So Haman went out on that day happy and glad of heart.
[But then he looked]:Haman saw Mordecai at the gate[of the palace] .
[He did not rise]or tremble[before him],[and it filled]Haman[against Mordecai]with rage.

10 But Haman[controlled himself]and went to his house.
[He sent out] and called for his friends and for Zeresh his wife.

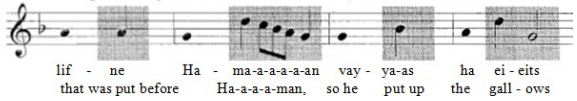
11 They were told[by Haman] of the the greatness of his wealth ,[and of his]many sons,
[and all about]how the king[advanced him], and how he raised him up
[above the officials] and servants of the king.

12 [And said]Haman: “What is more,[she invited no one]--Esther the queen--[along with the king]
to the feast she prepared ,[except for me].[Tomorrow also] I am invited by her ,
[along with the king].

13 [Yet all this] [has not any] value to me
[all of the time]in which I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the palace gate.”

5:14 Then spoke[to him]Zeresh his wife [and all of his friends],
“[Have a stake be put up]of height fifty cubits,
[and in the morning]|speak[to the king][to have them impale]Mordecai upon it.
[Then go]--[you go with the king]to the banquet, and be merry.”

5.14 end of chapter melody

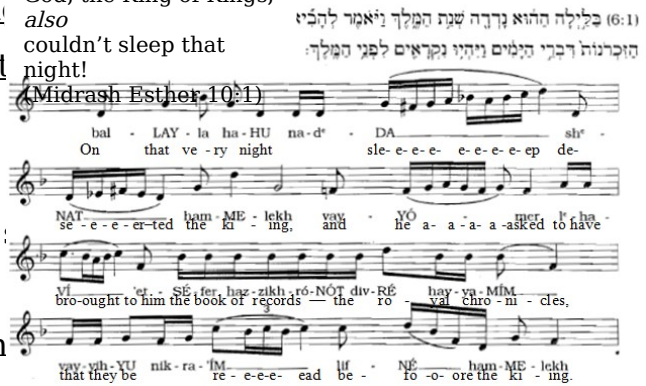


14 וַתֹּאמֶר לוֹ זֶרֶשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ וְכָל־אֹהֲבָיו
יַעֲשׂוּ־עֵץ גָּבֹהַּ חֲמִשִּׁים אַמָּה וּבַבֹּקֶר
אֱמֹר לַמֶּלֶךְ וְיִתְלוּ אֶת־מָרְדֳּכַי עָלָיו וּבֹא־
עִם־הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל־הַמִּשְׁתֶּה שָׂמֵחַ וַיִּיטַב
הַדָּבָר לִפְנֵי הָמָן וַיַּעַשׂ הָעֵץ׃ פ

6 בַּלַּיְלָה הַהוּא נָדְדָה שְׁנַת הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיֹּאמֶר
לְהָבִיא אֶת־סֵפֶר הַזִּכְרֹנוֹת דִּבְרֵי הַיָּמִים
וַיִּהְיוּ נִקְרָאִים לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ׃ 2 וַיִּמָּצֵא
כָתוּב אֲשֶׁר הִגִּיד מָרְדֳּכַי עַל־בִּגְתָנָא
וָתֶרֶשׁ שְׁנֵי סָרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ מִשֹּׁמְרֵי הַסַּף
אֲשֶׁר בִּקְשׁוּ לִשְׁלֹחַ יָד בַּמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ׃
3 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ מַה־נַּעֲשָׂה יְקָר וּגְדוּלָּה
לְמָרְדֳּכַי עַל־זֶה וַיֹּאמְרוּ נַעֲרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ
מְשָׁרְתָיו לֹא־נֵעָשָׂה עִמּוֹ דָּבָר׃ 4 וַיֹּאמֶר
הַמֶּלֶךְ מִי בֶחָצֵר וְהָמָן בָּא לַחֲצַר בֵּית־
הַמֶּלֶךְ הַחִיצוֹנָה לֵאמֹר לַמֶּלֶךְ לִתְלוֹת
אֶת־מָרְדֳּכַי עַל־הָעֵץ אֲשֶׁר־הֵכִין לוֹ׃
5 וַיֹּאמְרוּ נַעֲרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֵלָיו הִנֵּה הָמָן עֹמֵד
בֶּחָצֵר וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ יָבוֹא׃

[It seemed good]--[this suggested plan]
that was put before Haman , so he put up the gallows.

6:1 On that very night, sleep deserted the kin
[and he asked his servants] [to have brought t
the book of records--the royal chronicles,
that they be read before the king.

God, the King of Kings,
also
couldn't sleep that
night!
(Midrash Esther 10:1)

בַּלַּיְלָה הַהוּא נָדְדָה שְׁנַת הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיֹּאמֶר לְהָבִיא (6:1)
הַזִּכְרֹנוֹת דִּבְרֵי הַיָּמִים וַיִּהְיוּ נִקְרָאִים לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ׃
bal - LAY - la ha - HU na - dᵉ - DA sh ᵉ -
On that ve - ry night sle- e- e- e- e- e- e- ep de-
NAT se - e - e - er - ted the ki - ing, ham - ME - lekh and vav - YÓ he a- a - a- a -asked - mer to have - lᵉ - ha -
VI bro-ought - 'er - to him - SÉ - fer the haz - zikh - ró - NOT book div - RÊ of records — hay - ya - MÍM the ro - val chro - ni - cles,
vay - yih - YU that they be nik - ra - 'IM re - e-e-e- ead lif - be - NÊ to -o- ore ham - ME - lekh the ki - ing.

2 They found written this: that Mordecai had
against Bigthana and Teresh,
two of the king's eunuchs, guardians of the th
who had sought to lay a hand on King Ahashuerus.

3 And the king said, "[What was done]--what honor or advancement--to Mordecai for this?"

Then replied the servants of the king who attended him, "They haven't done for him a thing."

4 The king then asked , "Who is in the courtyard?"
For[Haman had entered]the court[of the king's palace]--the outermost court--
to speak to the king about hanging Mordecai on the gallows he had prepared for him.

5 And they replied--the servants of the king--[to him], "That is Haman standing in the courtyard."

And the king said , "Let him enter".

6:6 [And so did enter]Haman. The king said to him, "[What should be done] [for a man]

whom the king desires to honor?" And Haman thought in his heart,

"[Whom indeed] [would he desire]--[whom would delight the king] to give honor more than to me?"

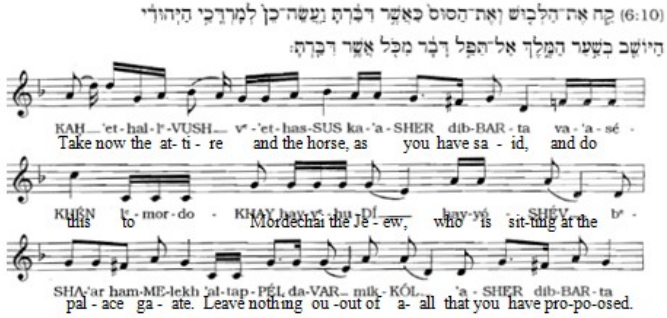
7 So Haman said to the king, "[For the man] whom the king desires to honor,

8 [Let them bring]a royal robe which has been worn by the king,

[and a horse]which has been ridden by the king, on which[there has been put] a royal crown on its head,

9 Have delivered the robe[and the horse][into the hand of a man] who is a prince of the king, a nobleman, who will dress the man whom the king delights to honor. He should lead him on horseback through the city square, and proclaim before him,

"This is what is done to the man whom the king wants to honor!"

10 But the king said to Haman, "[Act quickly, then].

(6:10) קַח אֶת־הַלְּבוּשׁ וְאֶת־הַסּוּס כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ וַעֲשֵׂה־כֵן לְמָרְדֳּכַי הַיְּהוּדִי
הַיּוֹשֵׁב בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ אַל־תַּפֵּל דָּבָר מִכֹּל אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ׃
KAH ... 'et-hal-l'-VUSH ... v'-'et-has-SUS ka-'a-SHER dib-BAR-ta va-'a-sé
Take now the at-ti-re and the horse, as you have sa-id, and do
KHEN l'-mor-do - KHAY hay-y'-hu DI ... hay-yó - SHEV b'-
this to Mordechai the Je-ew, who is sit-ting at the
SHA-'ar ham-ME-lekh 'al-tap-PÉL da-VAR ... mik-KÓL ... 'a-SHER dib-BAR-ta
pal-ace ga-ate. Leave nothing ou-out of a-all that you have pro-po-osed.

Take now the attire and the horse, as you have said,

and do this to Mordecai the Jew

who is sitting at the palace gate.

Leave[nothing out]of all that you have proposed."

11 So Haman took the robe and the horse

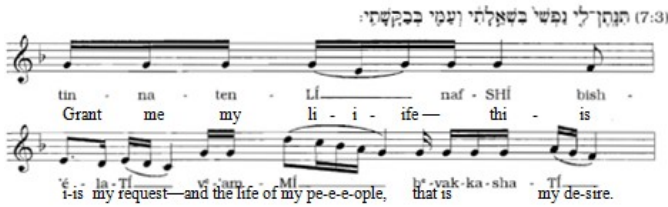
[and dressed up]Mordecai,

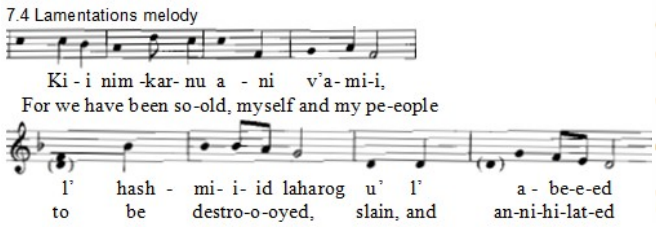
[and lead him on horseback]through the city square, and proclaimed before him,

"This[is what is done]to the man whom the king wants to honor!"

6 וַיָּבוֹא הָמָן
וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ מַה־לַּעֲשׂוֹת בָּאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר
הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בִּיקָרוֹ וַיֹּאמֶר הָמָן בְּלִבּוֹ לְמִי
יַחְפֹּץ הַמֶּלֶךְ לַעֲשׂוֹת יָקָר יוֹתֵר מִמֶּנִּי׃
7 וַיֹּאמֶר הָמָן אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ
חָפֵץ בִּיקָרוֹ׃ 8 יָבִיאוּ לְבוּשׁ מַלְכוּת אֲשֶׁר
לָבַשׁ־בּוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ וְסוּס אֲשֶׁר רָכַב עָלָיו
הַמֶּלֶךְ וַאֲשֶׁר נִתַּן כֶּתֶר מַלְכוּת בְּרֹאשׁוֹ׃
9 וְנָתוֹן הַלְּבוּשׁ וְהַסּוּס עַל־יַד־אִישׁ מְשָׂרֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ הַפַּרְתְּמִים וְהִלְבִּישׁוּ אֶת־הָאִישׁ
אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בִּיקָרוֹ וְהִרְכִּיבֻהוּ עַל־
הַסּוּס בִּרְחוֹב הָעִיר וְקָרְאוּ לְפָנָיו בָּכָה
יֵעָשֶׂה לָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בִּיקָרוֹ׃
10 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהָמָן מַהֵר קַח אֶת־
הַלְּבוּשׁ וְאֶת־הַסּוּס כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ וַעֲשֵׂה־
כֵן לְמָרְדֳּכַי הַיְּהוּדִי הַיּוֹשֵׁב בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ
אַל־תַּפֵּל דָּבָר מִכֹּל אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ׃ 11 וַיִּקַּח
הָמָן אֶת־הַלְּבוּשׁ וְאֶת־הַסּוּס וַיַּלְבֵּשׁ אֶת־
מָרְדֳּכָי וַיַּרְכִּיבֵהוּ בִּרְחוֹב הָעִיר וַיִּקְרָא
לְפָנָיו בָּכָה יֵעָשֶׂה לָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ
חָפֵץ בִּיקָרוֹ׃ 12 וַיָּשָׁב מָרְדֳּכַי אֶל־שַׁעַר
הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמָן נִדְחַף אֶל־בֵּיתוֹ אָבֵל וַחֲפוּי
רֹאשׁ׃ 13 וַיְסַפֵּר הָמָן לְזֶרֶשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ וּלְכָל־
אֹהֲבָיו אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר קָרָהוּ וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ
חֲכָמָיו וְזֶרֶשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ אִם מִזֶּרַע הַיְּהוּדִים
מָרְדֳּכַי אֲשֶׁר הַחִלּוֹתָ לִנְפֹּל לְפָנָיו לֹא־
תוּכַל לּוֹ כִּי־נָפוֹל תִּפּוֹל לְפָנָיו׃

12 Then returned Mordecai to the palace gate,
while Haman hastened to his house, mourning with a cover over his head.
13 Then told Haman Zeresh his wife and all his friends all that had happened to him.
[They responded to him]--his wise advisors and Zeresh his wife, "If he is from the seed
[of this people—the Jews],[this Mordecai],[this one of which] [you have begun]to fall[before him],
you will not[overcome him], but you will surely fall before him."

6:14 But while they were speaking with him, the king's eunuchs arrived.
Quickly they escorted Haman to the banquet prepared by Esther.
7:1[So they came]--the king and Haman--to dine with Esther the queen.
2 [Then inquired]the king to Esther once again,[on the second]day at the feast ove
wine,
"[What might be your wish] Esther my Queen ? It shall[be be granted to you].
[What is your request]? Even half the kingdom --[it shall be fulfilled]".
3 Then Esther the queen answered and said,
"[If I have found]favor in your eyes,
O king,[and it seems good]to the king,
grant me my life--this is my request--
[and the life of my people],[that is my desire].

(7:3) תִּנָּתֶן־לִי נַפְשִׁי בִּשְׁאֵלָתִי וְעַמִּי בְּבַקָּשָׁתִי׃
tin - na - ten - Lí — naf - SHí bish -
Grant me my li - i - ife — thi - is
é - la - Tí — v' 'am - Mí — b'-vak-ka-sha - Tí —
i-is my request—and the life of my pe-e-e-ople, that is my de-sire.


7.4 Lamentations melody
Ki - i nim -kar- nu a - ni v'a- mi-i,
For we have been so-old, myself and my pe-eople
l' hash - mi- i- id laharog u' l' a - be-e-ed
to be destro-o-oyed, slain, and an-ni-hi-lat-ed

עוֹדָם 14
מְדַבְּרִים עִמּוֹ וְסָרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ הִגִּיעוּ
וַיַּבְהִלוּ לְהָבִיא אֶת־הָמָן אֶל־הַמִּשְׁתֶּה
אֲשֶׁר־עָשְׂתָה אֶסְתֵּר׃ **7** וַיָּבֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ
וְהָמָן לִשְׁתּוֹת עִם־אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה׃
2 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאֶסְתֵּר גַּם בַּיּוֹם הַשֵּׁנִי
בְּמִשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן מַה־שְּׁאֵלָתֵךְ אֶסְתֵּר
הַמַּלְכָּה וְתִנָּתֶן לָךְ וּמַה־בַּקָּשָׁתֵךְ עַד־חֲצִי
הַמַּלְכוּת וְתֵעָשׂ׃ 3 וַתַּעַן אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה
וַתֹּאמַר אִם־מָצָאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינַיִךְ הַמֶּלֶךְ
וְאִם־עַל־הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב תִּנָּתֶן־לִי נַפְשִׁי
בִּשְׁאֵלָתִי וְעַמִּי בְּבַקָּשָׁתִי׃ 4 כִּי נִמְכַּרְנוּ
אֲנִי וְעַמִּי לְהַשְׁמִיד לַהֲרוֹג וּלְאַבֵּד וְאִלּוּ
לַעֲבָדִים וְלִשְׁפָחוֹת נִמְכַּרְנוּ הַחָרַשְׁתִּי כִּי
אֵין הַצָּר שׁוֶה בְּנֵזֶק הַמֶּלֶךְ׃ ס 5 וַיֹּאמֶר
הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ וַיֹּאמֶר לְאֶסְתֵּר
הַמַּלְכָּה מִי הוּא זֶה וְאֵי־זֶה הוּא אֲשֶׁר־
מְלָאוֹ לִבּוֹ לַעֲשׂוֹת כֵּן׃ 6 וַתֹּאמֶר־אֶסְתֵּר
אִישׁ צַר וְאוֹיֵב הָמָן הָרָע הַזֶּה וְהָמָן נִבְעַת
מִלִּפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַמַּלְכָּה׃ 7 וְהַמֶּלֶךְ קָם
בַּחֲמָתוֹ מִמִּשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן אֶל־גִּנַּת הַבִּיתָן
וְהָמָן עָמַד לְבַקֵּשׁ עַל־נַפְשׁוֹ מֵאֶסְתֵּר
הַמַּלְכָּה כִּי רָאָה כִּי־כְלְתָה אֵלָיו הָרָעָה
מֵאֵת הַמֶּלֶךְ׃

4 For we have been sold, myself and my people,
to be destroyed, slain, and annihilated.
[If it were only that]as slaves[and servant girls]
we had been sold,[I would have kept quiet].
[As things are,]the persecutor[certainly is not] [worth the damage] done to the king."

5 And answered King Ahashuerus, saying to Esther the queen,
"Who is he, and where is he, who put it in his heart to do such a thing?"

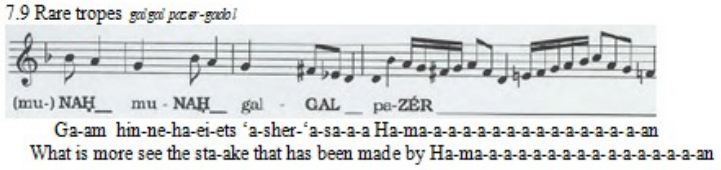
6 Esther replied, "[The man]--our persecutor and enemy, is this wretch Haman here."
And Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

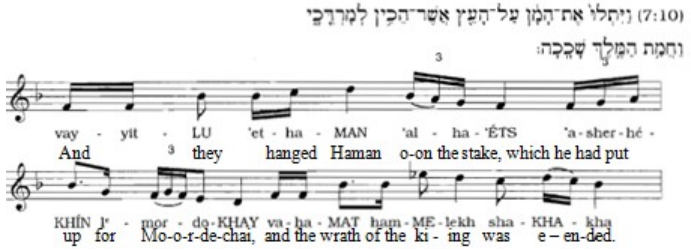
7 [Then the king]arose in his wrath from the feast of wine,[going to the palace]garden.
Haman remained to plead for his soul to Esther the queen,
for he saw that resolved[against him] [to destroy him]was the king.

7:8[When the king] [came back]from the palace garden to the hall | to the feast--
[the banquet of wine], Haman[lay prostrate] across the couch where Esther was lying. Exclaimed the king,
"[Will he also do this]:[ravish her here],[will he assault the queen] with me in the palace?
[When the word]came out of the mouth of the king, the face of Haman --[they covered it up].

8 וְהַמֶּלֶךְ שָׁב מִגִּנַּת הַבִּיתָן
אֶל־בֵּית | מִשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן וְהָמָן נֹפֵל עַל־
הַמִּטָּה אֲשֶׁר אֶסְתֵּר עָלֶיהָ וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ
הֲגַם לִכְבּוֹשׁ אֶת־הַמַּלְכָּה עִמִּי בַּבָּיִת
הַדָּבָר יָצָא מִפִּי הַמֶּלֶךְ וּפְנֵי הָמָן
חָפּוּ׃ ס 9 וַיֹּאמֶר חַרְבוֹנָה אֶחָד
מִן־הַסָּרִיסִים לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ גַּם הִנֵּה־הָעֵץ
אֲשֶׁר־עָשָׂה הָמָן לְמָרְדֳּכַי אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר־טוֹב
עַל־הַמֶּלֶךְ עֹמֵד בְּבֵית הָמָן גָּבַהּ חֲמִשִּׁים
אַמָּה וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ תְּלֻהוּ עָלָיו׃ 10 וַיִּתְלוּ
אֶת־הָמָן עַל־הָעֵץ אֲשֶׁר־הֵכִין לְמָרְדֳּכָי
וַחֲמַת הַמֶּלֶךְ שָׁכָכָה׃ פ
8 בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא נָתַן הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ
לְאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה אֶת־בֵּית הָמָן צֹרֵר
היהודיים הַיְּהוּדִים וּמָרְדֳּכַי בָּא לִפְנֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ כִּי־הִגִּידָה אֶסְתֵּר מַה הוּא־לָהּ׃
2 וַיָּסַר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת־טַבַּעְתּוֹ אֲשֶׁר הֶעֱבִיר
מֵהָמָן וַיִּתְּנָהּ לְמָרְדֳּכָי וַתָּשֶׂם אֶסְתֵּר
אֶת־מָרְדֳּכַי עַל־בֵּית הָמָן׃ פ
3 וַתּוֹסֶף אֶסְתֵּר וַתְּדַבֵּר לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וַתִּפֹּל
לִפְנֵי רַגְלָיו וַתֵּבְךְּ וַתִּתְחַנֵּן־לוֹ לְהַעֲבִיר
אֶת־רָעַת הָמָן הָאֲגָגִי וְאֶת מַחֲשַׁבְתּוֹ
אֲשֶׁר חָשַׁב עַל־הַיְּהוּדִים׃ 4 וַיּוֹשֶׁט הַמֶּלֶךְ
לְאֶסְתֵּר אֶת שַׁרְבִט הַזָּהָב וַתָּקָם אֶסְתֵּר
וַתַּעֲמֹד לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ׃

9 Then spoke Harbonah, one of the eunuchs, in [attendance on the king],
“What is more], [see the stake],
[that has been made] by Haman [for Mordecai],
who [spoke good] [on the king’s behalf].


7.9 Rare tropes gal gal pacer-gadol
(mu-) NAḤ__ mu - NAḤ__ gal - GAL__ pe-ZÊR
Ga-am hin-ne-ha-ei-ets ʿa-sher-ʿa-sa-a-a Ha-ma-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-an
What is more see the sta-ake that has been made by Ha-ma-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-an

It is standing at the house of Haman, with a height of fifty cubits. Replied the king, “Hang him on it.”
10 And they hanged Haman [on the stake]
[which he had put up] for Mordecai,
and the wrath of the king was ended.

(7:10) וַיִּתְלוּ אֶת־הָמָן עַל־הָעֵץ אֲשֶׁר־הֵכִין לְמָרְדֳּכָי
וַחֲמַת הַמֶּלֶךְ שָׁכָכָה׃
3
vay - yit - LU 'et - ha - MAN 'al - ha - 'ÊTS 'a - sher - hé -
And 3 they hanged Haman o-on the stake, which he had put
KHÍN J' - mor - do - KHAY va - ha - MAT ḥam - MḚ - lekh sha - KHA - kha
up for Mo-o-r-de-chai, and the wrath of the ki - ing was e – en-ded.

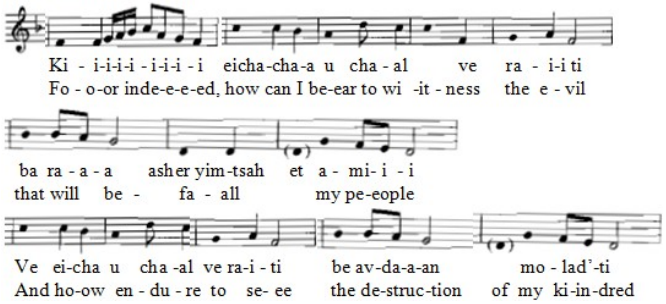
8:1 That [very day] he gave––King Ahasuerus––to Esther the queen [the estate of Haman],
enemy of the Jews. Mordecai came before the king, for Esther had revealed what he was to her.
2 The king removed [his signet ring] which he had taken away from Haman, and gave it to Mordecai.
[Then she appointed] [Esther put in charge]—Mordecai over the house of Haman.
3 Yet again Esther [went to speak] before the king and fell at his feet, weeping [and imploring him]

to avert the evil plot of Haman the Agagite and the scheme that he had devised against the Jews.

4 Then the king held out to Esther this: the scepter of gold. So Esther arose and stood before the king.

8:5 [She had this to say]: "If to the king it seems good,[and if I have found]favor[before him], and the thing seems right before the king, and if I am pleasing in his eyes, [let it be written]to revoke the letters—
[the letters that were written] by Haman son of Hamedatha the Agagite, which[he had written]
to destroy the Jews, who are found
in all the provinces of the king.

8.6 Lamentations melody


Ki - i-i-i-i - i-i-i - i eicha-cha-a u cha - al ve ra - i-i ti
Fo - o-or inde-e-e-ed, how can I be-ear to wi -it - ness the e - vil
ba ra - a - a asher yim-tsah et a - mi- i - i
that will be - fa - all my pe-eople
Ve ei-cha u cha -al ve ra-i - ti be av-da-a-an mo - lad'-ti
And ho-ow en - du - re to se- ee the de-struc-tion of my ki-in-dred

6 [For indeed], how can I bear to witness the evil
that will befall my people?
And how endure to see the destruction of my kindred?

7 Then said King Ashasuerus
to Esther the Queen and to Mordecai the Jew,
"Behold, the estate of Haman I have given to Esther, and him––they have hanged on the gallows,
[because of what he did]—he tried to lay his hand on the Jews.

8 [And you yourselves], you may write concerning the Jews what seems good in your eyes
in the name of the king, [and seal it]with the the king's signet, [since an edict]which is written |
[in the name of the king] [and which has been sealed] with the king's signet cannot be revoked."

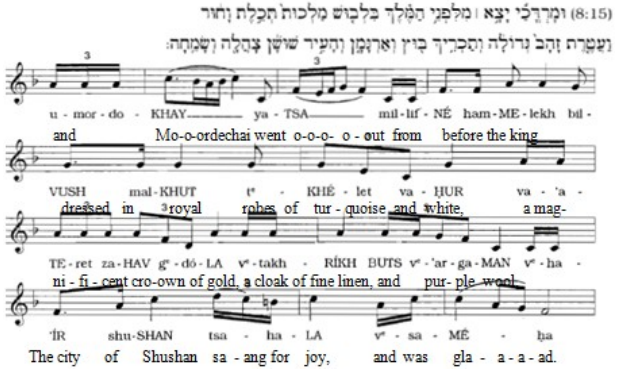
5 וַתֹּאמֶר אִם־עַל־
הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב וְאִם־מָצָאתִי חֵן לְפָנָיו וְכָשֵׁר
הַדָּבָר לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְטוֹבָה אֲנִי בְּעֵינָיו
יִכָּתֵב לְהָשִׁיב אֶת־הַסְּפָרִים מַחֲשֶׁבֶת
הָמָן בֶּן־הַמְּדָתָא הָאֲגָגִי אֲשֶׁר כָּתַב לְאַבֵּד
אֶת־הַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל־מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ׃
6 כִּי אֵיכָכָה אוּכַל וְרָאִיתִי בָּרָעָה אֲשֶׁר־
יִמְצָא אֶת־עַמִּי וְאֵיכָכָה אוּכַל וְרָאִיתִי
בְּאָבְדַן מוֹלַדְתִּי׃ ס 7 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ לְאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה וּלְמָרְדֳּכַי
הַיְּהוּדִי הִנֵּה בֵית־הָמָן נָתַתִּי לְאֶסְתֵּר
וְאֹתוֹ תָלוּ עַל־הָעֵץ עַל אֲשֶׁר־שָׁלַח יָדוֹ
ביהודיים בַּיְּהוּדִים׃ 8 וְאַתֶּם כִּתְבוּ עַל־
הַיְּהוּדִים כַּטּוֹב בְּעֵינֵיכֶם בְּשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ
וְחִתְמוּ בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ כִּי־כְתָב אֲשֶׁר־
נִכְתָּב בְּשֵׁם־הַמֶּלֶךְ וְנַחְתּוֹם בְּטַבַּעַת
הַמֶּלֶךְ אֵין לְהָשִׁיב׃ 9 וַיִּקָּרְאוּ סֹפְרֵי־
הַמֶּלֶךְ בָּעֵת־הַהִיא בַּחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁלִישִׁי הוּא־
חֹדֶשׁ סִיוָן בִּשְׁלוֹשָׁה וְעֶשְׂרִים בּוֹ וַיִּכָּתֵב
כְּכָל־אֲשֶׁר־צִוָּה מָרְדֳּכַי אֶל־הַיְּהוּדִים וְאֶל
הָאֲחַשְׁדַּרְפְּנִים־וְהַפַּחוֹת וְשָׂרֵי הַמְּדִינוֹת
אֲשֶׁר | מֵהֹדּוּ וְעַד־כּוּשׁ שֶׁבַע וְעֶשְׂרִים
וּמֵאָה מְדִינָה מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה כִּכְתָבָהּ
וְעַם וָעָם כִּלְשֹׁנוֹ וְאֶל־הַיְּהוּדִים כִּכְתָבָם
וְכִלְשׁוֹנָם׃ 10 וַיִּכְתֹּב בְּשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ וַיַּחְתֹּם בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיִּשְׁלַח
סְפָרִים בְּיַד הָרָצִים בַּסּוּסִים רֹכְבֵי הָרֶכֶשׁ
הָאֲחַשְׁתְּרָנִים בְּנֵי הָרַמָּכִים׃

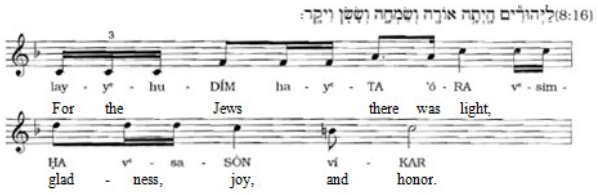
9 [Then were summoned] [the scribes of the king] [in that very hour], in the third month,
which is the month of Sivan, on[the third and twentieth day], [and there was written]
[all that was ordered]
by Mordecai:[writing to the Jews], to the satraps,[to the governors], to the princes of the provinces
[who preside] | from India to Ethiopia: seven and twenty and a hundred provinces, each province
[in its own script], each people in its own language, and to the Jews[in their own script]and language.
10 [He had them written]in the name of King Ahasuerus and sealed with the signet of the king,
and he sent proclamations [sending them by way] of couriers on horseback; riders on the swiftest steeds, bred from the royal stallion.

8:11 [In them it was written] that the king had granted to the Jews|[to be found] [in every city]
[the right to assemble]and protect their lives, to destroy, to kill and annihilate
[all the forces] [of any people] [or or any province] that might attack them ,
including children and women, and to plunder their possessions--
12 on a single day in all the provinces of King Ahashuerus,
on[the thirteenth day] of the twelfth month , which is the month of Adar.

11 אֲשֶׁר נָתַן
הַמֶּלֶךְ לַיְהוּדִים ׀ אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל־עִיר־וָעִיר
לְהִקָּהֵל וְלַעֲמֹד עַל־נַפְשָׁם לְהַשְׁמִיד
וְלַהֲרֹג וּלְאַבֵּד אֶת־כָּל־חֵיל עַם וּמְדִינָה
הַצָּרִים אֹתָם טַף וְנָשִׁים וּשְׁלָלָם לָבוֹז׃
12 בְּיוֹם אֶחָד בְּכָל־מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ בִּשְׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר לְחֹדֶשׁ שְׁנֵים־
עָשָׂר הוּא־חֹדֶשׁ אֲדָר׃ 13 פַּתְשֶׁגֶן הַכְּתָב
לְהִנָּתֵן דָּת בְּכָל־מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה גָּלוּי
לְכָל־הָעַמִּים וְלִהְיוֹת היהודיים הַיְּהוּדִים
עתודים עֲתִידִים לַיּוֹם הַזֶּה לְהִנָּקֵם
מֵאֹיְבֵיהֶם׃ 14 הָרָצִים רֹכְבֵי הָרֶכֶשׁ
הָאֲחַשְׁתְּרָנִים יָצְאוּ מְבֹהָלִים וּדְחוּפִים
בִּדְבַר הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַדָּת נִתְּנָה בְּשׁוּשַׁן
הַבִּירָה׃ פ
15 וּמָרְדֳּכַי יָצָא ׀ מִלִּפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ בִּלְבוּשׁ
מַלְכוּת תְּכֵלֶת וָחוּר וַעֲטֶרֶת זָהָב גְּדוֹלָה
וְתַכְרִיךְ בּוּץ וְאַרְגָּמָן וְהָעִיר שׁוּשָׁן צָהֲלָה
וְשָׂמֵחָה׃ 16 לַיְהוּדִים הָיְתָה אוֹרָה
וְשִׂמְחָה וְשָׂשׂוֹן וִיקָר׃ 17 וּבְכָל־מְדִינָה
וּמְדִינָה וּבְכָל־עִיר וָעִיר מְקוֹם אֲשֶׁר דְּבַר־
הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ מַגִּיעַ שִׂמְחָה וְשָׂשׂוֹן
לַיְהוּדִים מִשְׁתֶּה וְיוֹם טוֹב וְרַבִּים מֵעַמֵּי
הָאָרֶץ מִתְיַהֲדִים כִּי־נָפַל פַּחַד־הַיְּהוּדִים
עֲלֵיהֶם׃

13 A copy[of the royal edict]was issued as law in every province, and displayed to all the peoples,
so that the Jews would be ready on that day[to avenge themselves]on their enemies.
14 The couriers, mounted on the swiftest steeds,[went out urgently],
hastened and pressed on by the king's command.
And the decree was proclaimed in Shushan the capital.*

*Invitational cadence

(8:15) וּמָרְדֳּכַי יָצָא | מִלִּפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ בִּלְבוּשׁ מַלְכוּת תְּכֵלֶת וְחוּר
וְשׁוּשַׁן וְזַהֲבׂ גְּדוֹלָה וְתַכְרִיךְ בּוּץ וְאַרְגָּמָן וְהָעִיר שׁוּשָׁן צָהֲלָה וְשָׂמֵחָה׃
u - mor - do - KHAY——— ya - TSA——— mil - lif - NÉ ham - ME - lekh bil -
and Mo-o-ordechai went o-o-o- o - out from before the king
VUSH mal - KHUT t' - KHÉ - let va - ḤUR va - 'a -
dressed in royal robes of tur - quoise and white, a mag-
TE - ret za - HAV g' - dó - LA v' - takh - RÍKH BUTS v' - 'ar - ga - MAN v' - ha -
ni - fi - cent cro-own of gold, a cloak of fine linen, and pur- ple wool
'IR shu - SHAN tsa - ha - LA v' - sa - MÊ - ḥa
The city of Shushan sa - ang for joy, and was gla - a - a - ad.

15 And Mordecai went out from before the king
dressed in royal robes of turquoise and white,
a magnificent crown of gold, a cloak of fine linen
[and purple wool]. The city of Shushan
[sang for joy]and was glad.
16 [For the Jews] there was light , gladness, joy and honor.
17 In province after province, and[in city after city],
[in every place] to which[the word of the king]
and his decree had reached, there was joy and gladness
for the Jews, a feast and a holiday, [and a great many]
of the people of the land[professed themselves Jews],
for there fell the fear of the Jews upon them.

(8:16) לַיְהוּדִים הָיְתָה אוֹרָה וְשִׂמְחָה וְשָׂשׂוֹן וִיקָר׃
lay - y' - hu - DÍM ha - y' - TA 'ó - RA v' - sim -
For the Jews there was light,
ḤA v' - sa - SÓN vi - KAR
glad - ness, joy, and honor.

9:1[In the twelfth] month of the year, which is the month of Adar, on the thirteen
day it happened,
when[the time had arrived] [for the command of the king] and his decree to be
enforced,
[this being the day] on which had expected the enemies of the Jews to prevail[ove
them],
it was turned around; namely: [they overcame]—[the Jews in fact prevailed]over[
their enemies].
2 Then gathered the Jews [in their cities]in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus
to send forth their hand[against those who sought]their harm.
No man could stand[before them], for their fell a fear of them [over all the people
3 All officials of the provinces, the satraps, the governors,[those doing]the work o
the king,
supported the Jews; since there fell the fear of Mordecai upon them.
4 For great was Mordecai in the house of the king, and his fame was spreading in
the provinces.
This man Mordecai was gaining in power.
5 Then struck the Jews at all their enemies: the stroke of the sword brought
slaughter and destruction.
They did––to those who hated them––as they willed.
6 In Shushan the capital the Jews did kill––they destroyed––all of five hundred me
7 including Parshandatha and Dalphon and Aspatha;

9 וּבִשְׁנֵים עָשָׂר חֹדֶשׁ הוּא־חֹדֶשׁ
אֲדָר בִּשְׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר יוֹם בּוֹ אֲשֶׁר הִגִּיעַ
דְּבַר־הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ לְהֵעָשׂוֹת בַּיּוֹם אֲשֶׁר
שִׂבְּרוּ אוֹיְבֵי הַיְּהוּדִים לִשְׁלוֹט בָּהֶם
וְנַהֲפוֹךְ הוּא אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁלְטוּ הַיְּהוּדִים הֵמָּה
בְּשֹׂנְאֵיהֶם׃ 2 נִקְהֲלוּ הַיְּהוּדִים בְּעָרֵיהֶם
בְּכָל־מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ לִשְׁלֹחַ יָד
בִּמְבַקְשֵׁי רָעָתָם וְאִישׁ לֹא־עָמַד לִפְנֵיהֶם
כִּי־נָפַל פַּחְדָּם עַל־כָּל־הָעַמִּים׃ 3 וְכָל־
שָׂרֵי הַמְּדִינוֹת וְהָאֲחַשְׁדַּרְפְּנִים וְהַפַּחוֹת
וְעֹשֵׂי הַמְּלָאכָה אֲשֶׁר לַמֶּלֶךְ מְנַשְּׂאִים
אֶת־הַיְּהוּדִים כִּי־נָפַל פַּחַד־מָרְדֳּכַי
עֲלֵיהֶם׃ 4 כִּי־גָדוֹל מָרְדֳּכַי בְּבֵית הַמֶּלֶךְ
וְשָׁמְעוֹ הוֹלֵךְ בְּכָל־הַמְּדִינוֹת כִּי־הָאִישׁ
מָרְדֳּכַי הוֹלֵךְ וְגָדוֹל׃ פ
5 וַיַּכּוּ הַיְּהוּדִים בְּכָל־אֹיְבֵיהֶם מַכַּת־חֶרֶב
וְהֶרֶג וְאַבְדָן וַיַּעֲשׂוּ בְשֹׂנְאֵיהֶם כִּרְצוֹנָם׃
6 וּבְשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה הָרְגוּ הַיְּהוּדִים וְאַבֵּד
חֲמֵשׁ מֵאוֹת אִישׁ׃ 7 וְאֵת | פַּרְשַׁנְדָּתָא
וְאֵת | דַּלְפוֹן וְאֵת | אַסְפָּתָא׃ 8 וְאֵת |
פּוֹרָתָא וְאֵת | אֲדַלְיָא וְאֵת |
אֲרִידָתָא׃ 9 וְאֵת | פַּרְמַשְׁתָּא וְאֵת |
אֲרִיסַי וְאֵת | אֲרִדַי וְאֵת | וַיְזָתָא׃
10 עֲשֶׂרֶת בְּנֵי הָמָן בֶּן־הַמְּדָתָא צֹרֵר
הַיְּהוּדִים הָרָגוּ וּבַבִּזָּה לֹא שָׁלְחוּ אֶת־
יָדָם׃ 11 בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא בָּא מִסְפַּר הַהֲרוּגִים
בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ׃ ס

8 [including also] [one Poratha] and Adalia and Aridatha,
9 along with Parmashta and Asirai and Aridai and Vaizatha.
10 [These were the ten]sons of Haman,[son of Hammedatha], enemy of the Jews :
[these they killed].
[But on the plunder] they did not lay a hand.
11 On[that very day]they brought the number[of those that were killed]
in Shushan the capital before the king.

9:12 And spoke the king to Esther the queen, “In Shushan,[here in the citadel]
the Jews have killed and destroyed[all of five]hundred men,
including the ten[sons of Haman].[In the remainder of] the provinces of the king ,
what have they done?
[And what is your wish]? It shall be granted to you. What do you request further?[It
shall be done].”
13 Responded Esther, “If to the king it seems good, let it be granted--[tomorrow
may it be]--
that the Jews who are in Shushan [may act again]by the decree of today,
[and may it be] that the ten sons of Haman be hanged on the gallows.”
14 So the king commanded that this be done. The decree was proclaimed in
Shushan.
[And so it was] that the ten sons of Haman were hanged.
15 [And they assembled]--the Jews,[those who were in Shushan],
[once again they came forth]on the fourteenth day of the month of Adar,
and they killed in Shushan three hundred men.[But on the plunder] they did not lay
a hand.
16 The remainder--[all the rest of the Jews] [who lived] in the provinces of the king
[also assembled]| and defended[their very lives]. They had a respite from their
enemies,
and killed of their foes five and seventy thousand,[but on the plunder] they did not
lay a hand.

12 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה
בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה הָרְגוּ הַיְּהוּדִים וְאַבֵּד
חֲמֵשׁ מֵאוֹת אִישׁ וְאֵת עֲשֶׂרֶת בְּנֵי־הָמָן
בִּשְׁאָר מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ מֶה עָשׂוּ וּמַה־
שְּׁאֵלָתֵךְ וְיִנָּתֶן לָךְ וּמַה־בַּקָּשָׁתֵךְ עוֹד
וְתֵעָשׂ׃ 13 וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר אִם־עַל־הַמֶּלֶךְ
טוֹב יִנָּתֵן גַּם־מָחָר לַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּשׁוּשַׁן
לַעֲשׂוֹת כְּדָת הַיּוֹם וְאֶת עֲשֶׂרֶת בְּנֵי־הָמָן
יִתְלוּ עַל־הָעֵץ׃ 14 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהֵעָשׂוֹת
כֵּן וַתִּנָּתֵן דָּת בְּשׁוּשַׁן וְאֵת עֲשֶׂרֶת בְּנֵי־הָמָן
תָּלוּ׃ 15 וַיִּקָּהֲלוּ היהודיים הַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר־
בְּשׁוּשָׁן גַּם בְּיוֹם אַרְבָּעָה עָשָׂר לְחֹדֶשׁ
אֲדָר וַיַּהַרְגוּ בְשׁוּשָׁן שְׁלֹשׁ מֵאוֹת אִישׁ
וּבַבִּזָּה לֹא שָׁלְחוּ אֶת־יָדָם׃ 16 וּשְׁאָר
הַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בִּמְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ נִקְהֲלוּ ׀
וְעָמַד עַל־נַפְשָׁם וְנוֹחַ מֵאֹיְבֵיהֶם וְהָרֹג
בְּשֹׂנְאֵיהֶם חֲמִשָּׁה וְשִׁבְעִים אָלֶף וּבַבִּזָּה
לֹא שָׁלְחוּ אֶת־יָדָם׃ 17 בְּיוֹם־שְׁלֹשָׁה עָשָׂר
לְחֹדֶשׁ אֲדָר וְנוֹחַ בְּאַרְבָּעָה עָשָׂר בּוֹ וְעָשָׂה
אֹתוֹ יוֹם מִשְׁתֶּה וְשִׂמְחָה׃
18 והיהודיים וְהַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר־בְּשׁוּשָׁן
נִקְהֲלוּ בִּשְׁלֹשָׁה עָשָׂר בּוֹ וּבְאַרְבָּעָה עָשָׂר
בּוֹ וְנוֹחַ בַּחֲמִשָּׁה עָשָׂר בּוֹ וְעָשָׂה אֹתוֹ
יוֹם מִשְׁתֶּה וְשִׂמְחָה׃ 19 עַל־כֵּן הַיְּהוּדִים
הפרזים הַפְּרָזִים הַיֹּשְׁבִים ׀ בְּעָרֵי הַפְּרָזוֹת
עֹשִׂים ׀ אֶת יוֹם אַרְבָּעָה עָשָׂר לְחֹדֶשׁ אֲדָר
שִׂמְחָה וּמִשְׁתֶּה וְיוֹם טוֹב וּמִשְׁלוֹחַ מָנוֹת
אִישׁ לְרֵעֵהוּ׃ פ

17 This was the thirteenth day of the month of Adar.
[They rested]on the fourteenth day of that month, making[of it]a day of feasting and gladness.

18 But the Jews[who were in Shushan] [got together]
on the thirteenth day of the month and on the fourteenth day,
[and they rested]on the fifteenth day of the month, and made of it a day of feasting and gladness.

19 [That is why]the Jews,[dwelling in the villages] [those who live]in towns[without walls]
celebrate[this special day]: the fourteenth day of the month of Adar
for feasting and gladness and a *Yom-Tov*, and for sending presents one to another.

9:20 So recorded Mordecai the events aforementioned, and he sent letters [to all of the Jews]
who lived in all of the provinces of King Ahasuerus,[those who were near] [and those who were far].

21 [to establish] [among themselves] that they [should observe] [these special times]: this,
the fourteenth day of the month of Adar,[and also observe] the fifteenth day of that month,
from year to year

22 [these being the days] [which offered relief] [on them]for the Jews from their foes,
[and the month] [in which] [things were turned] for them from sorrow to joy, from

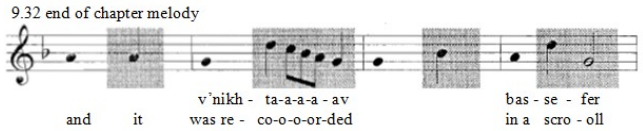
20 וַיִּכְתֹּב מָרְדֳּכַי אֶת־הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה
וַיִּשְׁלַח סְפָרִים אֶל־כָּל־הַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר
בְּכָל־מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ הַקְּרוֹבִים
וְהָרְחוֹקִים׃ 21 לְקַיֵּם עֲלֵיהֶם לִהְיוֹת
עֹשִׂים אֶת יוֹם אַרְבָּעָה עָשָׂר לְחֹדֶשׁ אֲדָר
וְאֶת יוֹם־חֲמִשָּׁה עָשָׂר בּוֹ בְּכָל־שָׁנָה
וְשָׁנָה׃ 22 כַּיָּמִים אֲשֶׁר־נָחוּ בָהֶם הַיְּהוּדִים
מֵאוֹיְבֵיהֶם וְהַחֹדֶשׁ אֲשֶׁר נֶהְפַּךְ לָהֶם
מִיָּגוֹן לְשִׂמְחָה וּמֵאֵבֶל לְיוֹם טוֹב לַעֲשׂוֹת
אוֹתָם יְמֵי מִשְׁתֶּה וְשִׂמְחָה וּמִשְׁלוֹחַ מָנוֹת
אִישׁ לְרֵעֵהוּ וּמַתָּנוֹת לָאֶבְיוֹנִים׃ 23 וְקִבֵּל
הַיְּהוּדִים אֵת אֲשֶׁר־הֵחֵלּוּ לַעֲשׂוֹת וְאֵת
אֲשֶׁר־כָּתַב מָרְדֳּכַי אֲלֵיהֶם׃ 24 כִּי הָמָן
בֶּן־הַמְּדָתָא הָאֲגָגִי צֹרֵר כָּל־הַיְּהוּדִים
חָשַׁב עַל־הַיְּהוּדִים לְאַבְּדָם וְהִפִּיל פּוּר
הוּא הַגּוֹרָל לְהֻמָּם וּלְאַבְּדָם׃ 25 וּבְבֹאָהּ
לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אָמַר עִם־הַסֵּפֶר יָשׁוּב
מַחֲשַׁבְתּוֹ הָרָעָה אֲשֶׁר־חָשַׁב עַל־
הַיְּהוּדִים עַל־רֹאשׁוֹ וְתָלוּ אֹתוֹ וְאֶת־בָּנָיו
עַל־הָעֵץ׃ 26 עַל־כֵּן קָרְאוּ לַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה
פּוּרִים עַל־שֵׁם הַפּוּר עַל־כֵּן עַל־כָּל־דִּבְרֵי
הָאִגֶּרֶת הַזֹּאת וּמַה־רָּאוּ עַל־כָּכָה וּמָה
הִגִּיעַ אֲלֵיהֶם׃ 27 קִיְּמוּ וקבל וְקִבְּלוּ
הַיְּהוּדִים ׀ עֲלֵיהֶם ׀ וְעַל־זַרְעָם וְעַל
כָּל־הַנִּלְוִים עֲלֵיהֶם וְלֹא יַעֲבוֹר לִהְיוֹת
עֹשִׂים אֶת שְׁנֵי הַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה כִּכְתָבָם
וְכִזְמַנָּם בְּכָל־שָׁנָה וְשָׁנָה׃

mourning to a *Yom-Tov*;
and to make[of them]days of feasting and gladness,
for sending gifts one to another, and presents[to the poor].
23 So undertook the Jews that which they had begun to practice,
[and they heeded the words] that Mordecai had written to them.
24 [All because] Haman son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the foe of all the Jews,
plotted against the Jews
to destroy them, and he cast the *pur*––that is, the lot––to consume them and destroy them.
25 [But when Esther came]before the king he commanded by letter,[that it recoil]––
[this wicked plot],[this evil aim], which he devised against the Jews ––[on his own head],
[and that they should hang]––[he himself]and his sons––on the gallows.
26 [And this is the reason why]they call these days[by the name *Purim*], from the word *pur*.
[And therefore] [because of all the words]of the letter we speak of,
[and of what they had seen]in these matters, and what had happened to them,
27 they established and imposed––the Jews | –– on themselves | and on their seed,
[and on all]who might[join them],[they should do] [this without fail]: that[they should observe]
the two days just mentioned,[in the manner prescribed] [and in its proper time],
from year to year.

9:28 And[these very days]should be remembered and observed from generation to generation,
by every family, in every province , in every city,[and the days]of
Purim[commemorated here]
[must not fail]to be observed among the Jews,[nor the memory of them] die out among their seed.
29 [Then she wrote a letter]—Esther the queen,[daughter of Abihail],
along with Mordecai the Jew ,[with full authority],
[in order to confirm] [the letter of Mordecai] [concerning *Chag Purim*]—she wrote this, the second one.
30 And he sent letters [to all the Jews]to the seven and twenty and one hundred provinces
of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, with words of *shalom* and *emet*.
31 [in order to establish] the days of Purim here noted [at their appointed time]
[just as it was]
enjoined on them by Mordecai the Jew and Esther the queen,[and that which they]
had decreed for themselves and for their seed, also matters of fasting and lamentation.
32 The decree of Esther[served to confirm]this observance of Purim , this holiday,
and it was recorded in a scroll.

28 וְהַיָּמִים
הָאֵלֶּה נִזְכָּרִים וְנַעֲשִׂים בְּכָל־דּוֹר וָדוֹר
מִשְׁפָּחָה וּמִשְׁפָּחָה מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה וְעִיר
וָעִיר וִימֵי הַפּוּרִים הָאֵלֶּה לֹא יַעַבְרוּ
מִתּוֹךְ הַיְּהוּדִים וְזִכְרָם לֹא־יָסוּף
מִזַּרְעָם׃ ס 29 וַתִּכְתֹּב אָסְתֵּר
הַמַּלְכָּה בַּת־אֲבִיחַיִל וּמָרְדֳּכַי הַיְּהוּדִי
אֶת־כָּל־תֹּקֶף לְקַיֵּם אֵת אִגֶּרֶת הַפּוּרִים
הַזֹּאת הַשֵּׁנִית׃ 30 וַיִּשְׁלַח סְפָרִים אֶל־כָּל־
הַיְּהוּדִים אֶל־שֶׁבַע וְעֶשְׂרִים וּמֵאָה מְדִינָה
מַלְכוּת אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ דִּבְרֵי שָׁלוֹם וֶאֱמֶת׃
31 לְקַיֵּם אֶת־יְמֵי הַפֻּרִים הָאֵלֶּה בִּזְמַנֵּיהֶם
כַּאֲשֶׁר קִיַּם עֲלֵיהֶם מָרְדֳּכַי הַיְּהוּדִי
וְאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה וְכַאֲשֶׁר קִיְּמוּ עַל־נַפְשָׁם
וְעַל־זַרְעָם דִּבְרֵי הַצֹּמוֹת וְזַעֲקָתָם׃
32 וּמַאֲמַר אֶסְתֵּר קִיַּם דִּבְרֵי הַפֻּרִים הָאֵלֶּה
וְנִכְתָּב בַּסֵּפֶר׃ פ

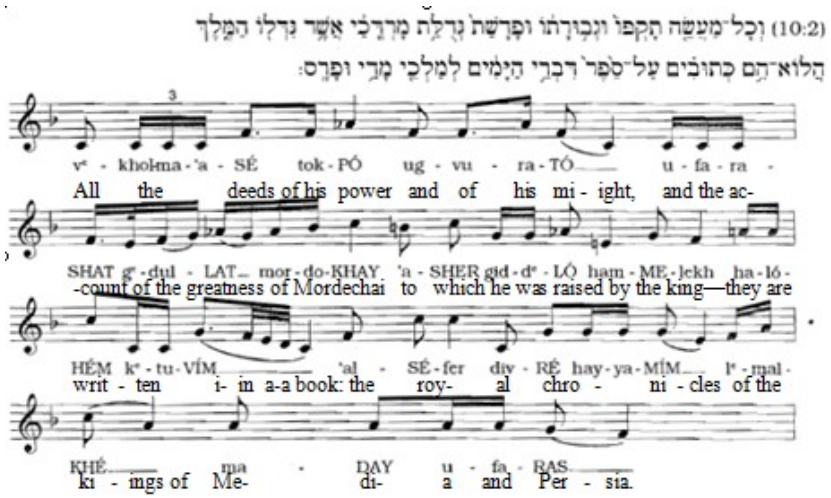
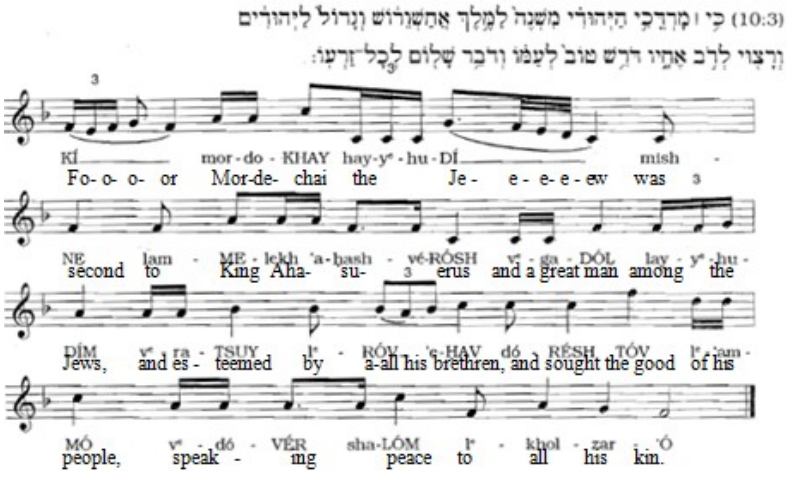
9.32 end of chapter melody



10:1 [Then did impose]King Ahashuerus[a tax as tribute]on the land and the islands of the sea.

2 [All the deeds]of his power and of his might, and the account of the greatness of Mordecai
to which he was raised by the king––
they[are all written][in a book]: the royal chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia.

3 For Mordecai the Jew was second to King Ahasuerus[and a great man]among the Jews,
and esteemed by all his brethren, and sought the good of his people, speaking peace to all his kin.

10 וַיָּשֶׂם הַמֶּלֶךְ אחשרש אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ
מַס עַל־הָאָרֶץ וְאִיֵּי הַיָּם׃ 2 וְכָל־מַעֲשֵׂה
תָקְפּוֹ וּגְבוּרָתוֹ וּפָרָשַׁת גְּדֻלַּת מָרְדֳּכַי אֲשֶׁר
גִּדְּלוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ הֲלוֹא־הֵם כְּתוּבִים עַל־סֵפֶר
דִּבְרֵי הַיָּמִים לְמַלְכֵי מָדַי וּפָרָס׃ 3 כִּי
מָרְדֳּכַי הַיְּהוּדִי מִשְׁנֶה לַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ
וְגָדוֹל לַיְּהוּדִים וְרָצוּי לְרֹב אֶחָיו דֹּרֵשׁ
טוֹב לְעַמּוֹ וְדֹבֵר שָׁלוֹם לְכָל־זַרְעוֹ׃

(10:2) וְכָל־מַעֲשֵׂה תָקְפּוֹ וּגְבוּרָתוֹ וּפָרָשַׁת גְּדֻלַּת מָרְדֳּכַי אֲשֶׁר גִּדְּלוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ
הֲלוֹא־הֵם כְּתוּבִים עַל־סֵפֶר דִּבְרֵי הַיָּמִים לְמַלְכֵי מָדַי וּפָרָס׃
v'-khol-ma-'a-SÉ tok-PÓ ug-vu-ra-TÓ u-fa-ra-
All the deeds of his power and of his mi-ight, and the ac-
SHAT g'-dul-LAT mor-do-KHAY 'a-SHER gid-d'-LÓ ham-ME-lekh ha-ló-
-count of the greatness of Mordechai to which he was raised by the king—they are
HÉM k'-tu-VÍM 'al-SÉ-fer div-RÉ hay-ya-MÍM l'-mal-
writ-ten i-in a-a book: the roy-al chro-ni-cles of the
KHÉ ma-DAY u-fa-RAS
ki-ings of Me-di-a and Per-sia.

(10:3) כִּי מָרְדֳּכַי הַיְּהוּדִי מִשְׁנֶה לַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ וְגָדוֹל לַיְּהוּדִים
וְרָצוּי לְרֹב אֶחָיו דֹּרֵשׁ טוֹב לְעַמּוֹ וְדֹבֵר שָׁלוֹם לְכָל־זַרְעוֹ׃
Kí mor-do-KHAY hay-y'-hu-DÍ mish-
Fo-o-o-or Mor-de-chai the Je-e-e-e-ew was
NE lam-ME-lekh 'a-hash-vé-RÓSH v'-ga-DÓL lay-y'-hu-
second to King Aha-su-erus and a great man among the
DÍM v'-ra-TSUY l'-RÓV 'e-HAV dó RÉSH TÓV l'-am-
Jews, and es-teemed by a-all his brethren, and sought the good of his
MÓ v'-dó-VÉR sha-LÓM l'-khol-zar-Ó
people, speak-ing peace to all his kin.